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Japan

Hayashi Questions Need for Early G-7 Talks

GW1603014693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0122 GMT
16 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi on Tuesday questioned whether it would be worthwhile immediately convening a ministerial meeting of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations on aid to Russia. Hayashi, speaking at a regular press conference after the morning cabinet meeting, said it would be no use holding such a meeting without plans for reaching a specific agreement.

The minister denied reports that leaders of the G-7 may hold an emergency meeting before the July Tokyo summit, saying, "Nothing has been decided." Hayashi also said Japan's stance of not giving substantial aid to Russia until a territorial issue is resolved has not changed.

The finance minister said the G-7 did agree at its weekend meeting in Hong Kong on supporting Russia in a concerted manner but that the degree of enthusiasm for such support varies depending on the strength of the various G-7 members' relations with Moscow.

Hayashi denied there will be any specific agreement on the Russian issue between Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and U.S. President Bill Clinton when they meet next month in Washington.

Turning to foreign exchange rates, Hayashi denied reports that there was an agreement by the G-7 in a recent London meeting to concertedly boost the yen against other major currencies. But he added he will "closely monitor developments" in the market.

Tokyo Rules Out Emergency G-7 Summit on Russia

OW1603013793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0106 GMT
16 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe on Tuesday ruled out the possibility of an emergency Group of Seven (G-7) summit to discuss aid to Russia. Watanabe made the remark at a news conference after a cabinet meeting.

Meanwhile, government sources said Japan will send an invitation as early as April to Russian President Boris Yeltsin to attend the annual G-7 summit in Tokyo in July. The sources said the Japanese decision on the timing of the invitation was prompted by growing calls from some G-7 member countries for an emergency summit and ministerial session to discuss aid to Russia. The G-7 groups the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, Britain and Canada.

Although Japan has already decided to invite Yeltsin to the Tokyo summit, the timing of the official invitation to

the Russian leader will be far earlier than a previously anticipated date in May, the sources said. Japan will send the invitation after Yeltsin's talks with U.S. President Bill Clinton in Vancouver, Canada, on April 3 and 4, and Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's meeting with Clinton on April 16, the sources said.

Emergency Humanitarian Aid Favored

OW1603040593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0348 GMT
16 Mar 93

[Excerpt] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, ruling out the possibility of an emergency summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations on aid to Russia, said Tuesday Japan favors giving priority to emergency humanitarian aid to Russia. At a news conference after a cabinet meeting, Watanabe said he is skeptical about such an impromptu G-7 summit because a 24 billion dollar aid package has not been fully released and Russia is not ready to accept fresh large-scale financial assistance.

It is faster to offer "small but quickly useful" food and medical and other humanitarian aid than offering big economic aid, he told reporters. Watanabe added, however, that he would be willing to attend a ministerial meeting on aid to Russia if such a meeting was called by the G-7, which groups the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, Britain and Canada. Personal representatives of G-7 leaders met in Hong Kong last weekend to review the Russian situation and ways to help the embattled country.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's chief spokesman, Yohei Kono, said at a separate news conference that Watanabe's remarks reflected only the view of the Foreign Ministry. Kono said Japan will consult with other G-7 countries about an emergency G-7 summit on aid to Russia.

Fedorov said the G-7 personal representatives, known as "sherpas," were "alarmed with the political situation as it unfolded at the Eighth Congress of People's Deputies," the Russian legislature, which last week stripped Yeltsin of some of his powers and canceled a referendum he had called. "There is no reason to be hysterical about it, nothing has been irretrievably lost," Fedorov insisted in the interview. "For practical purposes no dramatic changes will occur unless real hostilities start." [passage omitted]

Tokyo Considers Ministers' Meeting

OW1603122193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1155 GMT
16 Mar 93

[Excerpts] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Japan said Tuesday it is against advancing July's Tokyo economic summit but that it would consider holding an earlier cabinet-level meeting among the world's seven major economic powers, aimed at helping bolster Russian President Boris Yeltsin's reforms. Top government spokesman Yohei Kono said, "It would probably be

difficult for the top leader of each country to present ideas that can be realistically implemented" if an early summit were to be called.

Kono, the chief cabinet secretary, told a news conference, "I think it is more feasible to hold a cabinet-level meeting" among the world's seven major economic powers to discuss aid to Russia. Kono said it remains "undetermined" whether Russian Deputy Prime Minister Boris Fedorov would be invited to a ministerial-level meeting if it is called. Fedorov attended a weekend meeting in Hong Kong of officials from the Group of Seven (G-7) countries.

Government sources said one plan under consideration is to expand a meeting of G-7 finance ministers, planned for Washington in late April, to include foreign ministers. Earlier in the day, Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said he would be willing to attend an emergency ministerial meeting on aid to Russia.

Japan is skeptical about an impromptu summit because a 24 billion dollar aid package for Russia, agreed upon last year, has not been fully released, Watanabe said. The foreign minister said that "small but quickly useful" food and medical aid makes more sense. Watanabe told reporters that some of U.S. President Bill Clinton's advisers favor an early summit because they calculate that if conservatives assume power in Russia the United States will have to increase its military budget at a time when it is planning cutbacks. Foreign Ministry spokesman Masamichi Hanabusa, speaking separately, said Japan was not completely ruling out the possibility of holding a summit earlier than the July 7-9 Tokyo summit.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa called in Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada and Deputy Foreign Minister Koichiro Matsuura to discuss Japan's position on the proposed holding of an emergency summit. Owada, who is leaving for Washington on Wednesday for talks with U.S. officials, is expected to seek U.S. agreement on convening a cabinet-level meeting. Owada is slated to meet Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Matsuura, who as Miyazawa's personal representative acted for Japan at the Hong Kong session, briefed Miyazawa on the weekend summit planning meeting, and discussed the possibility of inviting Yeltsin to the Tokyo summit in July. Chief Cabinet Secretary Kono said. Kono said no final conclusion has been reached on the summit invitation for Russian President Yeltsin. [passage omitted] In Moscow, INTERFAX news agency quoted Fedorov as saying that Yeltsin "is certain to be invited to Tokyo. The president must by all means go there."

Japanese officials believe Clinton would like to be able to present Yeltsin with a coordinated show of international support at their first summit meeting, slated for April 3-4

in Vancouver, Canada. The G-7 groups the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, Britain and Canada.

Ministry Outlines Tokyo Summit Agenda

OW1603113093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1050 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—July's Tokyo economic summit agenda will include aid to Russia and developing countries, the environment and global trade, a senior Foreign Ministry source said Tuesday [16 March].

The agenda items for the annual Group of Seven (G-7) summit were set at a meeting in Hong Kong over the weekend of senior officials of the United States, Canada, Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Japan, the source said. He told reporters the "sherpas," or personal representatives of the G-7 leaders, agreed on six major agenda items—assistance to Russia and other former Soviet republics, support for developing countries, global trade including the stalled Uruguay Round trade talks, macro-economic issues, the environment and political issues.

Japan will host this year's summit in Tokyo from July 7 to 9. Leaders of the world's seven major economic powers and representatives of the European Community (EC) are scheduled to attend the Tokyo summit. Russian President Boris Yeltsin may be invited to Tokyo for talks with the leaders.

The ministry source said representatives of the seven countries discussed the possibility of holding an emergency summit to consider assistance for Russia, but no consensus on the issue was reached. Japan has come under pressure as this year's summit host to move up the date of the Tokyo summit or to hold a separate emergency summit specifically to discuss assistance for Yeltsin, whose leadership is being challenged by Russia's conservative-dominated legislature.

Mori Urges Strict Screening of Exports to DPRK

OW1603062593 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 16 Mar 93

[From the "NHK News" program]

[Text] Regarding the DPRK's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT], Yoshiro Mori, minister of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI], expressed his belief that the screening of exports to the DPRK from Japan should be more strictly carried out in the future. The minister spoke at a news conference following today's cabinet meeting.

At the news conference, MITI Minister Mori first stated that when civilian commodities that might be used for producing or developing such weapons as missiles were exported from Japan in the past, screening was strictly carried out. He added that under the new situation, in which North Korea had declared its withdrawal from the

NPT, Japan would now take even stricter measures in screening exports to North Korea. Thus, he indicated that Japan would adopt a strict approach toward North Korea.

Japan's exports to North Korea, including textiles and passenger cars, amounted to \$223 million last year, and for the past few years, the level of exports has been maintained at around \$200 million.

Tokyo Favors UN Involvement in DPRK Issue

*OW1603103593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1024 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Japan favors the United Nations' involvement if other international efforts to convince North Korea to stay with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty fail at the end of three months, the top government spokesman said Tuesday.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), China and Russia are urging Pyongyang to rethink its decision to quit the treaty. If those attempts fail, then the issue may be taken up by the U.N. Security Council, Kono told a news conference.

He said Japan has not yet considered whether international sanctions would be necessary if diplomatic efforts do not succeed.

North Korea is bound by the treaty to wait 90 days before its withdrawal from the agreement becomes final. Pyongyang formally informed the United Nations last Friday it was quitting the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in protest against U.S.-South Korea military exercises and also against mounting international pressure for inspections of two suspect nuclear sites.

The IAEA will convene a special board meeting Thursday to address North Korea's refusal to allow an IAEA inspection team to visit sites the agency believes are part of a nuclear program.

Kono said it would be "unfortunate" if North Korea opted for isolation at a time when the international community is trying to establish a more peaceful world. Pyongyang's action is causing tensions to rise in the region, particularly in South Korea, Kono said.

Japan is consulting closely with Seoul and Washington about how to respond to North Korea's surprise announcement, the government spokesman said. Kono's comments come as Pyongyang staunchly rejected international pleas to overturn its decision. "If the United States puts new pressure on us...ignoring our warnings, we will take a corresponding countermeasure, no matter what pressure it may be," said Choe Tae-pok, a member of the Political Bureau of the Korean Workers' Party Central Committee.

The U.S. and its allies compelled Pyongyang to quit the treaty, and requests to reconsider the decision do "not

deserve even a passing note," Choe said in a statement carried Tuesday by the official (North) Korean Central News Agency.

Hiraiwa Expects Miyazawa Rice Decision 'Shortly'

*OW1603090093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0754 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Gaishi Hiraiwa, one of Japan's top business moguls, said Tuesday he expects Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will make a decision shortly on the nation's much-criticized rice policy. Hiraiwa, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), told a press conference that Miyazawa will "have some determination in mind" on the rice matter when he meets U.S. President Bill Clinton in mid-April in Washington.

Japan has been under fire from foreign countries for its long-standing ban on rice imports, stalling a final agreement on the Uruguay Round of global trade talks.

The head of the nation's largest business lobby said that the upcoming Japan-U.S. summit talks will also deal with a stimulus package aimed at boosting the faltering economy and achieving the government's goal of 3.3 percent economic growth in fiscal 1993.

During the talks, Miyazawa is expected to pledge new pump-priming measures, which will cap a 10.7 trillion yen package the government unveiled last August. The new stimulative package should surpass the previous package in scale, he added.

On the issue of an income tax reduction, much desired by the business community as means to stimulate sluggish consumer spending, Hiraiwa said it is unlikely as such a move would require a sweeping overhaul of Japan's outmoded tax system. Hiraiwa also urged Miyazawa to take the lead in reforming Japan's political system. Japan's political community has been dogged by a series of scandals, including the indictment of former ruling party kingpin Shin Kanemaru on charges of tax evasion.

"It is imperative to have political reform bills pass quickly through the Diet though there is little time left for deliberations," he said. "What is needed here is the premier's strong leadership."

SDF Members Leave for Monitoring in Cambodia

*OW1603112393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1040 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Eight members of the Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) left Tuesday to join U.N. ceasefire monitoring activities in Cambodia.

After two weeks of briefings from staff with the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), they will replace an earlier eight who have been in Cambodia

since last fall and are due to return to Japan on Monday. The replacement eight will spend about six months in Cambodia.

Japan also will dispatch a 599-member GSDF contingent of civil engineering troops to replace Japanese troops in Cambodia in several stages from late March through early April. The contingent they replace has been involved in rebuilding highways in the country's southern provinces.

Fact-Finding Mission Returns From Mozambique

OW1603015693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0120 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—A Japanese Government fact-finding mission returned Tuesday from Mozambique after probing the feasibility of sending a Japanese contingent to join U.N. peacekeepers there. The eight-member mission, led by the Foreign Ministry's U.N. Bureau Councillor Masaki Konishi, had been in Mozambique since March 4 to determine whether conditions are ripe for Japan to take part in peacekeeping operations there.

An election is to be held in Mozambique following a peace accord between the government and Renamo rebels last October that ended a 16-year civil war in which at least 600,000 rebels died.

The mission will report its findings to Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono, top aide to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on peacekeeping matters. Kono has reportedly been taking a cautious stance on a proposed dispatch of a Japanese peacekeeping contingent to Mozambique. The mission also visited neighboring Zimbabwe, to which many Mozambican refugees fled in the civil war, officials said.

Clothing Maker Buys Sewing Factory in Vietnam

OW1603122093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1014 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Ryo International has secured approval from the Vietnamese Government to purchase a state-run sewing factory and to set up a wholly owned subsidiary in that country, the Japanese apparel maker said Tuesday.

The company said it is the first Japanese concern and the third foreign enterprise to establish a wholly owned subsidiary in the communist country. The subsidiary, called Ryo International (Vietnam) Co., will be capitalized at 335,000 dollars and produce apparel goods at the factory starting in late March, Ryo International said.

Raw materials will be imported from Indonesia, Pakistan, China, India, South Korea, and Taiwan in cooperation with two Japanese trading houses, Itochu Corp. and Tomen Corp., the company said. All products will

be shipped to Japan initially, but the firm intends to extend export of the products to U.S. and European markets in the future.

Total investment in the project, including the purchase of the factory, will reach one million dollars, the company said. It expects annual sales of 300 to 500 million yen in the initial year. The Vietnamese state-run textile factory, called Dong Phuong Knitting, has to date been producing t-shirts and polo shirts.

Merchandise Trade Surplus Posts Increase

OW1603102993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0839 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Japan's merchandise trade surplus continued to balloon in February, growing 3.7 percent from a year earlier to 10.56 billion dollars, the Finance Ministry said Tuesday. It was the 26th consecutive month that the trade figures posted a year-on-year increase.

On a customs-cleared basis, the figures showed that imports fell 2.8 percent to 17.41 billion dollars, shrinking at a faster pace than exports, which dipped 0.5 percent to 27.97 billion dollars. "The current trend isn't likely to change for the time being," said Jun Yamamoto, an economist with the Industrial Bank of Japan.

The February trade surplus was the largest reading for the month. The Finance Ministry said sluggish shipments of products to the European Community (EC) in particular, and the relatively small appreciation of the yen against the dollar combined to restrain exports as it fell on a year-to-year basis for the first time in 33 months.

Exports to the EC, including audio visual equipment, automobile and precision machinery products, shed 14.4 per cent. A ministry official attributed the decline to the lackluster economy in Europe.

Reflecting the recession in Japan, the drop in imports came for the second consecutive month. It was the first time since June 1991 that the surplus showed only a single-digit gain. The figure brings the cumulative total for the current fiscal year, which began last April 1, to 97.54 billion dollars as of the end of February, surpassing the record of 89.73 billion dollars posted in whole of fiscal 1986.

For exports, the dollar was calculated at 123.77 yen, falling only 1.5 percent from the year before. But the ministry official indicated that the export figure may balloon for this month since the dollar was changing hands at the 130 yen level a year ago compared to the current levels of lower than 120 yen.

A barrel of oil was 17.76 dollars in February. The ministry official declined to give any further projections, however, saying he cannot predict what future exchange rates or oil prices will be.

But in light of a recent weakening of the dollar, economists say the government may face some pressure from overseas about the growing surplus. Japan's trade surplus with the United States continued to advance for the 11th month in a row in February, climbing 19.2 percent from the year before.

With one month to go in fiscal 1992, the aggregate surplus with the U.S. mounted to 41.65 billion dollars by February, 18.0 percent more than the figure for the correspondent period in the previous fiscal year. The ministry official said shipments of industrial materials to the U.S. seem on the increase. Meanwhile, Japan's surplus with the EC fell 18.7 percent, while those with Asian nations gained 23.2 percent overall.

National Farm Trade Deficit Hits High in 1992

*OW1603120593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1000 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Japan's farm trade deficit hit an all-time high of 53,183 million dollars in 1992, up 6.1 percent over the preceding year, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries reported Tuesday. The ministry said Japanese imports of farm produce grew 6.1 percent over the year before to 55,952 million dollars, while exports were up 6.0 percent at 2,768 million dollars.

Imports from the United States, mainly logs, corn and beef, gained 7.1 percent to 17,735 million dollars, accounting for 31.7 percent of the total Japanese farm imports and making it the largest farm exporter to Japan, the ministry said. The United States was followed by China, Canada and Australia, the ministry said. The main import items were timber, logs for processing, shrimps, pork and corn, the ministry said.

Tokyo IDB's 'Top Cofinancing Nation'

*OW1603041893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0326 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Washington, March 15 KYODO—Japan was the biggest cofinancing nation of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in 1992 in extending loans to developing nations, bank officials said Monday [15 March]. The IDB carried out 19 bilateral cofinancing operations worth 826.7 million dollars in the year for projects financed by the bank, they said.

Japan contributed 76.8 percent of the total loans or 635.2 million dollars, continuing to be the major source of bilateral cofinancing from the previous year. Of the total cofinanced by Japan, the Export-Import Bank of Japan accounted for 382.2 million dollars and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan loaned 253 million dollars. The amounts include 250 million dollars loaned to Brazil by the Export-Import Bank and a 109 million dollar loan for Mexico by the OECF, the officials said.

MITI Plans Seminar on Arms Export Control

*OW1603130893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1146 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Japan's trade and industry ministry is considering offering arms export control know-how to about 10 Asian nations to spur them into signing international agreements curbing weapons of mass destruction, ministry officials said Tuesday.

The officials said the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) plans to hold a seminar on arms export control as early as this fall in an Asian country. The countries include Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, and South Korea. MITI also would accept trainees from these countries, the officials said.

They said progress in technology has enabled these Asian nations to produce materials and machine tools which can be used in making lethal weapons such as nuclear arms. To date these countries have not controlled exports of such materials and machinery, they said.

The ministry has already sounded out Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand, they said. The four countries generally showed a positive reaction to Japan's offer, the officials said.

Finance Ministry To Question Okasan Securities

*OW1503054593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0430 GMT
15 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 15 KYODO—The Ministry of Finance (MOF) plans to question Okasan Securities Co. about its role in brokering discount bank debenture purchases made by former ruling party power broker Shin Kanemaru, ministry officials said Monday. The ministry suspects that the brokerage ignored rules restricting the deliberate scattering of large orders into small lots.

Kanemaru was indicted over the weekend for allegedly evading taxes by purchasing discount bank debentures, financial instruments which do not require registration of the buyer's name.

A ministry's notice requires confirmation of buyers when the debentures are purchased in blocks of 30 million yen or more. But based on related testimony, the ministry suspects Okasan or individual employees of advising Kanemaru to buy in small lots. The ministry will also ask Okasan whether it followed rules requiring it to issue transaction reports to purchasers, the officials said.

Miyazawa Views Rumors of High-Stakes Mah-Jongg

*OW1603090993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0831 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Tuesday downplayed press reports

that the Science and Technology Agency chief used to play mah-jongg games with disgraced ruling party heavy-weight Shin Kanemaru in which huge sums of money were allegedly at stake. Miyazawa said it appears Nakajima did not play games for big money with Kanemaru, who is under arrest on tax evasion charges.

Nakajima said in Monday's ASAHI SHIMBUN evening edition that he had played mah-jongg with Kanemaru and indicated they betted money on the games. At a hurriedly arranged news conference after the ASAHI report came out, Nakajima said he used to play mah-jongg with Kanemaru, but denied betting any money.

Construction Minister Kishiro Nakamura joined Nakajima on Tuesday in acknowledging playing mah-jongg with Kanemaru, but also denied money was at stake. Gambling is illegal in Japan except for authorized horse racing, cycling and motorboat races.

Press reports have alleged Kanemaru, who helped Miyazawa come to power in 1991, used to invite Nakajima and other Liberal Democratic Party politicians to his Tokyo home and office almost daily to play high-stakes mah-jongg. The ASAHI reported Diet members visited Kanemaru's home with millions of yen to play the game.

The reports also alleged Kanemaru used to pay off his mah-jongg losses by diverting interest from discount bank debentures he amassed by creaming off political donations. The reports alleged Kanemaru occasionally made intentional blunders in the games to help channel political funds to members of the LDP's formerly biggest faction, which was controlled by Kanemaru and former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

Defense Agency Director General Toshio Nakayama and National Land Agency Director General Takashi Inoue, both denied playing mah-jongg with their one-time ally. However, Nakayama and Inoue said not only politicians but many citizens play mah-jongg for money. A problem arises when large sums of money are gambled on the games, they said.

Miyazawa and Home Affairs Minister Keijiro Murata both said they have not played mah-jongg for more than 20 years.

Hajime Funada, director general of the Economic Planning Agency, told reporters he has not played mah-jongg, while Transport Minister Ihei Ochi said he used to play frequently before being elected to the Diet.

Panels Discuss Political Funds, Reform 14 Mar

OW1603111393

[Editorial report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 0000 GMT on 14 March carries a 140-minute live panel discussion entitled "Political Reform—Questions to Ruling and Opposition Parties". The program is divided into a 60-minute panel discussion with leading politicians from the ruling Liberal

Democratic Party [LDP] and an 80-minute panel discussion with leading opposition politicians. The panel discussion is moderated by NHK commentators Masato Obama and Kazuo Okamura.

At 0003 GMT, Obama begins the panel discussion with leading lawmakers from the LDP. Present at the discussion with leading politicians from the LDP are Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, chairman of the LDP Policy Research Affairs Council; Keizo Obuchi, deputy chief of the LDP Political Reform Promotion Headquarters; Hajime Ishii in charge of the electoral system at the LDP Political Reform Promotion Headquarters, and Yuzo Tsushima in charge of the political funds at the LDP Political Reform Promotion Headquarters.

After noting the arrests of former LDP Vice President Kanemaru and his secretary Haibara for evading taxes and an NHK public opinion poll showing that more than 71 percent of the respondents do not expect the present Diet to carry out political reform, Obama asks panel participants from the LDP to comment about the arrest of Mr. Kanemaru. In response, Mitsuzuka says that "his arrest came as a shock to the ruling party" and stresses that the "LDP should do everything possible to regenerate itself," adding that the parliament should be put on the road to reform. Commenting on Kanemaru's arrest, Obuchi says that "his arrest is very regrettable" and stresses that "it is time to push for political reform." Obuchi also describes Kanemaru's arrest as a shock. Asked by Okamura to comment on political funds, Ishii says that "Kanemaru's arrest came as a great shock and his arrest will have a great impact on parliamentarians affiliated with the ruling party" and notes that the LDP parliamentarians are taking his arrest seriously. Commenting on Kanemaru's arrest, Tsushima says that "I was really surprised by his arrest" and adds that "measures should be taken to prevent a recurrence of the abuse of political funds."

Asked by Obama to comment on political ethics, Mitsuzuka says that the "ruling party is considering taking measures to establish a political ethic" and points to the "deep public distrust in politics," adding that he is resolved to deal seriously with the issue of establishing political ethics.

Asked by Obama about political reform, Tsushima spells out what the LDP has thus far done for political reform and points out that "under the political reform, donations from businesses to individual politicians will be restricted, and these individual politicians will be excluded from the management of their political funds." On the subject of political donations to politicians, Obuchi says that "factionalism in the LDP will lose the significance of its existence once a single one-seat constituency system for the lower house is put into practice" and stresses the need to pass an amendment bill to the current Political Fund Control Law at the Diet. On factionalism in the ruling party, Mitsuzuka says that "I have long argued for pushing for political reform, based on a small constituency system for the lower house."

Saying that hundreds of millions of yen are needed to run each faction in the LDP, Mitsuzuka says that "I have had difficulties in running my faction in the ruling party" and discloses that he is asking senior members of his faction to make financial contributions. Mitsuzuka says that "maintaining factions in the LDP is financially difficult."

Asked by Okamura about donations from businesses and economic organizations to politicians, Tsushima supports continuing donations from businesses, citing examples in European nations and the United States and says that "Japan will be able to establish the best political fund system concerning donations from businesses in the world" once the political reform now under study by the LDP is put into effect.

Asked by Obama about the electoral system, Ishii stresses the need to reform the current electoral system and notes that the current medium constituency system for the lower house is a source of problems, including factionalism and politicians' collection of funds from enterprises, for the ruling party. Ishii also says that the medium constituency system has existed for nearly 70 years in Japan and stresses that under this system, the "LDP is able to continue to stay in power, but there is no hopes for opposition parties to seize power." Noting that "Japan has long continued to maintain the medium constituency system, which is found nowhere in the world," Ishii indicates that the system is a big problem and says that the opposition should propose reforming the current electoral system.

On the electoral system, Obuchi favors introducing the small constituency system, stressing that the "system will make elections less costly for politicians," and says that the Diet should take up the system for deliberation. Commenting on the current electoral system, Mitsuzuka says that the "LDP will come to grips with the small constituency system" and it will submit a bill to the Diet at the end of March for the legislation of the new electoral system. Mitsuzuka also stresses that "both the ruling and opposition parties will find the areas of agreement in the course of debating how to reform the current electoral system." Hailing the small constituency system as an electoral system that Japan should adopt in the future, Ishii says that "I will stress to the opposition that the "small constituency system is the only alternative to the current electoral system and that this system is necessary to lay the foundation for building a new politics in Japan in the 21st century," adding that he will urge the opposition to work together with the LDP to that end. Commenting on the electoral system, Tsushima cites the enactment of the Corruption Prevention Law in Britain in 1883 and notes that the law has resulted in purifying the British political world, adding that in 1885, Britain adopted for the first time the one-seat small constituency system. Tsushima also stresses that in Britain, the Corruption Prevention Law and the reform of the electoral system have combined to produce good results.

After a lengthy discussion on the British electoral system, Obama turns the subject to the issue of money involved in elections and asks Mitsuzuka to comment. In response, Mitsuzuka says that "under the current medium constituency system, candidates fielded by the LDP compete against each other in elections and very few candidates backed by the LDP fight opposition candidates." Mitsuzuka also notes that "under the current medium constituency system, politicians should carry out political activities only for the sake of elections and need to raise funds to use during their election campaign." Asked by Obama if the small constituency system could resolve all the problems, Mitsuzuka answers that "yes, the system will resolve all the problems."

Questioned by Okamura on reforming the current electoral system, Obuchi says that "the reform of the current electoral system alone cannot change all things" and stresses the need to win the public understanding of changing the electoral system. Ishii says that it is necessary to reform the current electoral system through a national campaign aimed at winning the people's understanding. Asked by Obama to comment on reshaping the current political parties, Ishii says that "I favor restructuring the current political parties—restructuring them is necessary to resolve the various political issues." Raising doubts on why the current political party structure was maintained for 55 years, Ishii also points out that the "current political party structure has brought no change to power despite a series of political scandals" and stresses the need to seek a "bold change in the current political party structure."

Questioned by Okamura about a change of government, Mitsuzuka says that the "government must be changed through elections and that, under the current political party structure, change in the government cannot be expected for good." Mitsuzuka goes on to say that "under the present political situation, the small constituency system, if adopted, would make it possible to reshape the current political party structure."

Asked by Obama to comment on the change in power, Tsushima says that "for the change in power, opposition parties need to alter their policies, noting that their security and energy policies are not acceptable to the people" and stresses "that if they uphold those policies, the change in power would be impossible." Tsushima also asserts that "each opposition party must work to build itself into a ruling political party capable of running the government," adding that under the present situation, none of the opposition parties can become a ruling party.

At 0100 GMT, Obama asks panel participants to push for the political reform and then ends the panel discussion with leading politicians from the ruling party.

At 0104 GMT, Obama begins the panel discussion with leading lawmakers from opposition parties, after the showing of a video interviewing citizens on political reform.

Present at the panel discussion are Hirotaka Akamatsu, secretary general of the main opposition Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ]; Kanju Sato in charge of political reform in the SDPJ; Yuichi Ichikawa, secretary general of the Komeito; Nobuaki Futami, in charge of the political reform in the Komeito; Takashi Yonezawa, secretary general of the Socialist Democratic Party [DSP]; Tatsuo Kawabata, in charge of the political reform in the DSP; Kazuo Shii, secretariat of the Japan Communist Party [JCP]; and Mitsuo Higashinaka, in charge of the political reform in the JCP.

Obama first asks the secretaries general of the opposition parties to comment on Kanemaru's arrest. In response, Akamatsu calls the scandal involving Mr. Kanemaru the "biggest in terms of the amount and the nature of the money involved in postwar Japan history" and vows to work hard to probe into the scandal and to prevent its recurrence. Ichikawa says that "LDP politicians often assert that money needs to carry out political activities and the Kanemaru case corroborates public suspicions that LDP politicians might channel political funds into their pockets." He expresses regret over the Kanemaru case. Ichikawa also says that "if Mr. Miyazawa fails to submit a program for political reform to the current Diet, his cabinet should resign en masse" and vows to push for political reform. Shii says that "our party has persistently claimed that Kanemaru and his secretary Haibara are at the center of the recent scandal and their arrests dramatically prove our claim accurate." Shii also stresses the need to make a thorough probe into the relationship between the Sagawa scandal and their tax evasion, and discloses that "our party's independent investigations found Kanemaru receiving 500 million yen in 1989 and 300 million yen in 1990 from the Sagawa Kyubin Company, in addition to the 500 million yen that has already come to light." Shii also says that "it has become necessary for opposition parties to seek their testimonies before the Diet and the establishment of an ad-hoc committee in the Diet. Yonezawa describes the Kanemaru case as a "taint in the history of the Japanese constitutional government."

After discussing opposition politicians' alleged involvement in the Sagawa scandal, Obama asks Futami to comment on the prevention of political corruption. In response, Futami says that "political corruption cannot be rooted out unless the current political party structure is rebuilt" and points out that the Komeito totally bans receiving donations from businesses.

Asked by Obama to comment on political reform, Akamatsu says that "our party has already submitted bills aimed at establishing a political ethic, preventing political corruption and reforming the current electoral system to the Diet for their legislation" and adds that his party is trying to negotiate the bills with other political parties, including the LDP. Ichikawa says that "in principle, our party rules out political donations from businesses" and stresses that "if the political reform leaves political donations from enterprises intact, it would be of little significance." Ichikawa also notes that how to

handle political donations from businesses is the key to the political reform, and proposes a bold reform of political funding. Higashinaka emphasizes that "political donations from enterprises must be prohibited" and violators of the prohibition should be severely penalized. Yonezawa says that "political donations from businesses should be banned," adding that the ban should be put into force three years later after studying ways to raise political funds. Futami emphatically supports banning political donations from enterprises, arguing that political funds must be raised publicly. Sato says that ways should be studied to raise political funds publicly and from taxes. Shii says that he opposes raising the political funds from taxes and stresses the need for opposition parties to "press the LDP to stop raising the political funds from businesses." Asked by Obama to sum up the issue of political funding, Akamatsu says that "political donations from businesses and labor organizations should be banned, and our party's position is that it is desirable to raise political funds publicly."

Asked by Okamura to comment on the parliamentary probe into the recent scandal, Kawabata says that the "scandal stems from the LDP's trying to remain in power and stresses that his party will tenaciously insist on establishing an ad-hoc committee in the Diet to probe into the recent scandal. Futami also stresses the need to establish an ad-hoc committee for a parliamentary probe into the scandal, citing the Watergate case in the United States, and adds that the ad-hoc committee must be staffed with independent prosecutors. Shii supports establishing the committee. At 0220 GMT Obama concludes the panel discussion.

Panel Approves Reform Legislation Outlines

*OW1603143093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1415 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—A panel of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) on Tuesday endorsed outlines of four political reform bills governing political funds and introducing single-seat constituencies, party officials said. The decision by the LDP political reform panel followed the arrest and indictment this month of disgraced LDP power broker Shin Kanemaru, a former LDP vice president.

Kanemaru, 78, quit the Diet in October after being fined for receiving 500 million yen in an illegal donation. In a separate case he was arrested on March 6 for allegedly evading hundreds of millions of yen in income taxes. A former aide also was indicted.

The LDP's Executive Council, the party's decision-making body, will adopt the political reform outlines on Friday and present a package of four bills to the Diet after the fiscal 1993 state budget passes through parliament, the officials said. It is expected to pass by April 4.

Aside from setting up a system of single-seat constituencies for general elections in the House of Representatives, the outlines of the bills are designed to tighten the

Political Funds Control Law. It would ban anyone or group from giving donations to individual politicians directly. But, any individual politician is allowed to establish up to two fund-raising organizations.

Companies, labor unions, or any other organizations can donate a maximum of 240,000 yen each year to such fund-raising bodies. This would bar LDP faction leaders from giving political funds to faction members directly, the officials said.

Political parties and their authorized fund-raising organizations can each get between 15 million yen and 200 million yen from companies, unions or other organizations in a single year. The annual limit will vary according to the size of organizations.

As for the electoral system, the outlines call for replacing current multi-seat constituencies with single-seat ones in general elections for the lower house. The plans revise the Public Election Law by requiring 50 or more candidates as a condition of forming a new party.

Election campaigners would be banned from shouting the names of candidates from moving campaign cars. Candidates would be allowed to visit the homes of voters to seek support.

Mori Urges Pump Priming, Assistance to Russia

*OW1603022593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0158 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Japan should work out additional pump-priming measures by mid-April so that Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa can present them when he meets U.S. President Bill Clinton in Washington, the trade minister said Tuesday.

International Trade and Industry (MITI) Minister Yoshiro Mori said at a press conference, "It is important to draw up measures to expand Japan's domestic demand before Prime Minister Miyazawa visits the United States."

Mori also stressed the need for outlining programs to recycle the nation's huge trade surplus and to assist Russia by the time of Miyazawa's visit to the U.S., rather than by the Tokyo economic summit scheduled for July 7-9.

Asks Power Firms for Investment

*OW1503101593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0945 GMT
15 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 15 KYODO—Japan's trade minister asked electric power companies on Monday to plan as much investment in plant and equipment as possible for fiscal 1993 with a view to reviving the ailing economy, trade ministry officials said. International Trade and Industry Minister Yoshiro Mori made the request to Sho Nasu, president of the Federation of Electric Power Companies, the officials said.

Mori called for more capital spending than projected last autumn and for advancing implementation of such investment to ensure a stable supply of electric power for long-term economic development, they said. They quoted Nasu as replying he would immediately convey the request to electric power companies and do his best to increase capital spending for the next fiscal year, starting April 1.

Mori also called for further efforts to proceed with laying underground cables, they said. A five-year project to put 1,000 kilometers of cables underground started in fiscal 1991, to proceed at a rate of 200 kilometers per year, the officials said. In fiscal 1991 and 1992, less than 300 kilometers are expected to have been laid, according to the officials.

Funada Urges Extra Pump-Priming Measures

*OW1603020293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0141 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Japan's chief economic planner said Tuesday the government should consider additional pump-priming measures which would have immediate effects on the economy.

Hajime Funada, director general of the Economic Planning Agency (EPA), also told a regular news conference that serious consideration should be given to a front-loading of public works spending in fiscal 1993, which starts next April 1, as part of the new economic package. He said he favors an improvement of "social infrastructure" under the package.

MITI Considers Group To Review Distribution

*OW1603120493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1047 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry is considering setting up a study group to revitalize the lackluster distribution industry and satisfy consumers' changing needs, ministry officials said Tuesday. The group, to be made up of academics, would analyze structural changes in consumption and distribution, and identify problems and challenges for merchandising businesses in a report to be drawn up by autumn, the officials said.

Given consumers' inclination toward lower-priced and generic name goods, as well as growing competition among different kinds of retailers, the distribution industry should review itself and take new steps, they said.

Required action includes precisely understanding consumers' needs, beefing up marketing, rationalizing purchasing, stock control, and distribution, and reviewing store development and location strategy, they said. The distribution industry includes department stores, shopping complexes, general merchandise stores, specialty shops, discount house chains, and convenience stores.

Poll: People Want Income Tax Reduction

*OW1603071893 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 11 Mar 93*

[From the "NHK News" program]

[Text] An NHK survey indicates that people are calling for a reduction in the income tax to boost the economy. NHK conducted a nation-wide poll on 6-7 March of 1,800 men and women over 20 years of age, and 67 percent responded.

Asked how much their livelihood is affected by the economic slowdown, 28 percent of the respondents said their incomes have dropped and their livelihood is affected by the economic slowdown. Meanwhile, 20 percent said although their incomes have decreased, their livelihood is not affected by the economic slowdown. In this way, the poll indicates that nearly 50 percent of the respondents are suffering a drop in income due to the economic slowdown.

With regard to the government's economic measures, 84 percent said that the measures are not sufficient. Asked what measures the government should take, most respondents said the government should cut the income tax. This was followed by those respondents who said public works projects should be increased. Other respondents said it is necessary to lower interest rates. Thus, people who hope for a reduction in the income tax are increasing.

The respondents were asked if there were an income tax cut, what would they do with the extra money. Most respondents said that they would save it while about 30 percent said that they would spend the extra money on direct consumption. In response to a question on how the government should secure a revenue source for an income tax cut, most respondents said the government should acquire a revenue source by cutting overhead, followed by those who said the government should issue deficit-financing national bonds. Others called for an increase in the consumption tax. In this way, there are a growing number of people who urge the government to acquire a revenue source by managing expenditures.

North Korea**Reports, Reaction on Treaty Withdrawal Continue****Ministry Issues Memo on Treaty**

*SK1503234593 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 15 Mar 93*

[Text] A DPRK Foreign Ministry memorandum on the truth of the nuclear inspection of our country by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]:

The DPRK, prompted by its antinuclear policy for peace, joined the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT], effectuated the nuclear safeguards accord, and

has faithfully received the inspections by the IAEA in order to force the U.S. nuclear weapons out of South Korea, to eliminate a nuclear threat against us, and to further turn the Korean peninsula into a non-nuclear zone. In this process, the honesty of the peaceful nuclear policy of the Government of our Republic has been confirmed, and the international trust in us has been further enhanced. However, the United States, mentioning suspicion of our nuclear development, a fictitious allegation, violated its obligations pursuant to the treaty which it should strictly observe as a state possessing nuclear weapons. It manipulated some circles and some member states of the IAEA Secretariat and had the IAEA's February Board of Governors meeting adopt an unjust resolution forcing inspections of our military installations which have nothing to do with nuclear activities, while resuming the Team Spirit joint military exercise—a test nuclear war exercise—against our country, a nonnuclear state, with the South Korean authorities.

The situation that has been created made it impossible for the Government of our Republic to implement the obligations pursuant to the nuclear safeguards accord any longer. The DPRK Foreign Ministry issues this memorandum because it thinks it necessary to clarify the truth of the nuclear inspections of our country by the IAEA.

1. The sincere efforts of the Government of the Republic for the implementation of the nuclear safeguards accord:

The nuclear safeguards accord between the DPRK and the IAEA was signed on 30 January 1992 and effectuated on 10 April 1992. We submitted to the IAEA the initial report on the inventory of nuclear materials and the design notification on nuclear facilities which we were supposed to submit pursuant to Articles 42 and 60 on 4 May 1992, far ahead of the deadline stipulated in the accord. With a view to fully opening up our nuclear activities, we notified the IAEA on even the specifications of nuclear facilities and the specifications of scientific research institutions which do not fall under the safeguards accord.

To help the IAEA fully understand the overall status of nuclear activities in our country and their peaceful nature, we invited the IAEA delegation led by its director general to our country in May 1992, showed the delegation not only the nuclear facilities falling under the safeguard accord but the nuclear facilities that do not fall under the safeguards accord as well. We even went so far as to show the delegation other nonnuclear facilities. We showed the IAEA director general and his entourage not only the nuclear facilities under construction but the underground structures as well.

The IAEA conducted six rounds of nonregular inspections from 4 May 1992, when the DPRK submitted the initial report and other relevant documents to the IAEA, to early February 1993. During this period, the IAEA inspectors confirmed the design notification [solgye

tongbo] by facilities, conducted as planned the extraction of test samples and the examination of measurement and operational record documents [chukchong mit unyong kirok munkkon chosa] necessary for the verification of the initial report. At every instance necessary, the IAEA inspectors gave their agreement and installed surveillance devices [kamsi kigu].

Our facility operators provided the inspectors with maximum convenience and active cooperation so that the inspectors could fulfill their duty smoothly.

When inspectors demanded an extract of high-radioactivity waste water (?circuitry) at the radioactive-chemical laboratory, our facility operators exposed themselves to more than the maximum permissible exposure level to take the (?sample). When the IAEA inspectors demanded a guarantee of conditions for measurement of (?waste) fuel in the test atomic energy power station, we ensured necessary working conditions through complicated operational and manipulation procedures, although this impaired the safety and the operation of the facilities.

The initial report that the DPRK submitted to the IAEA fully reflected our nuclear activities. However, we also sent other supplementary materials in a timely manner since the inspectors said that such materials were required for verifying the initial report.

Thanks to our active support, the IAEA inspectors could fulfill their mission as planned without any inconvenience. The IAEA inspectors again expressed thanks for our sincere cooperation. This was clearly pointed out even in reports submitted to the Board of Governors meetings by the IAEA's director-general.

2. Unreasonable Assertions of Some Officials of the IAEA Secretariat:

Some officials of the IAEA secretariat insisted that inconsistencies existed in principle between our report and the result of the IAEA's measurement. But none of the claimed inconsistencies in principle exist.

Discrepancies between information we provided and the result of the IAEA's measurement are not alleged inconsistencies. The discrepancies originated from the IAEA's own disregard of our conditions for the operation of facilities and also from the artificial fabrication by some officials of the IAEA Secretariat of the result of the inspections.

The characteristic features of our nuclear activities are that we have maintained the principle of self-reliance in the nuclear energy development, proceeding from our country's subjective and objective conditions and that we have submitted to the IAEA inspections our nuclear facilities which were still at the experimental stage, not in regular operation, from the viewpoint of the inspection. Some officials of the IAEA Secretariat should, as a matter of course, have taken into consideration such

characteristics of our nuclear activities in interpreting the result of the inspections.

However, they lacked the right standpoint and attitude to clarify any point at issue and, therefore, deliberately made the matter complicated, raising a hasty fuss even before seeking any consultation with the operators.

The operators have the best knowledge on concrete conditions of the facilities. Therefore, it is indispensable for the inspectors to consult with the operators. However, the IAEA inspectors, showing suspicions first, began to apply pressure instead of striving to resolve problems that were raised.

The fourth irregular inspection team [pijonggi sachaldan], came to our country from 2 to 14 November 1992, and demanded official talks in Pyongyang before going down to the spot. At the talks, the inspectors claimed, "More nuclear materials should be declared," "This is the last chance for revising the initial report," and "If one misses this opportunity, miserable consequences will follow," thus attempting to threaten us.

Our facility operators gave scientific and technical explanation on concrete operational conditions of the facilities and advised them to correctly interpret measurement results.

After going down to where the facilities are located, the inspectors had a better understanding of the real status of the facilities and after holding concrete consultations with the operators, they admitted that many of their views were based on excessively hasty conclusions.

Summing up the inspection before their return, the inspectors said that they heard a number of detailed explanations and gained beneficial materials.

The sixth irregular inspection team, which came from 26 January to 6 February 1993, applied pressure by saying that the issue of two principle discrepancies is a serious one that needs to be resolved urgently.

The first principle inconsistency, according to some officials of the IAEA Secretariat, is that the composition and quantity of plutonium we declared to the IAEA does not correspond to what was calculated by the IAEA.

Our facility specialists input source data that reflects reality into computers to obtain correct calculation results. The result corresponded to the composition and quantity of plutonium extracted from the melting fuel rods. This fact leaves no room for controversy. But the inspection team calculation results differed remarkably from our calculated output.

The inspection team failed to specifically explain the process of its calculation but only insisted on its calculated figure, saying that the IAEA calculation team applied universally recognized calculation codes to the appropriate source data.

Our facility operators said that we had also reviewed our calculations as this issue has been raised since the fourth irregular inspection, and proved in a reverse manner how the result of calculation was attained.

The inspectors failed to answer our questions of "What is wrong in our calculation," and "What is insufficient in our explanation."

Summing up technological consultations, they said that they learned many things from consultations and that since they obtained useful materials from operational records, they will calculate them again after returning to the IAEA. They promised to again hold meetings for consultation.

Our side handed over our calculation data as a document to the inspection team. However, the IAEA director-general proposed special inspections on 9 February, even before the sixth inspection team recalculated data upon returning to Vienna on 8 February.

The second principle inconsistency raised by some officials of the IAEA Secretariat is that the composition of plutonium extracted by the radiochemical laboratory does not correspond to that of the liquid waste.

The main point here is to correctly understand its cause. The cause was fully clarified by our scientists who explained that the difference came from when the solution from the basic experiment of plutonium extraction in 1975 was placed in the relevant waste tank.

During talks between us and the IAEA Secretariat in Vienna, Austria, on 20 and 21 February, we answered assertions of some officials of the IAEA Secretariat who insisted that the quantity and composition of plutonium extracted during the basic experimental process in the radiochemical laboratory were not consistent with the results calculated by the IAEA with scientific, technological and logical explanations using concrete data, materials, and proof.

While some officials of the IAEA Secretariat admitted their mistakes in principle in their calculation, they said, nevertheless, that they could not accept our calculated result until the results were confirmed to be based on the data of the operating records in the facilities.

Despite the fact that the inspectors already saw the pertinent documents of proof, they stubbornly denied that they could see them.

We submitted all required documents, including the initial report which needs to be submitted in accordance with the safeguards accord in advance, and showed all documents kept at the facilities, including operating records, to the IAEA inspectors during the course of six rounds of irregular inspections.

Some officials of the IAEA Secretariat recklessly denied all facts and scientific and technological proof. This was so as to work out a pretext for a special inspection of the two military facilities by unreasonably linking them to

the issue of inconsistencies according to the scenario prepared in advance by the United States.

The unreasonable assertions of some officials of the IAEA Secretariat were that they want to inspect our two sites. The two sites they claim are military facilities have nothing to do with nuclear activities and therefore, we have no obligation to show them to the IAEA.

The issue is that some officials of the IAEA want to inspect military facilities, which are not nuclear-related facilities, with false intelligence offered by a third country.

In this connection we cannot but look back on what happened in the past. Last September, the IAEA's director general suddenly demanded that IAEA inspection team members conducting the third irregular inspection in our country at the time, be allowed to see two sites, which have nothing to do with nuclear activities, in the form of a visit.

Although showing installations not under the safeguards agreement to inspection team members visiting our country to inspect nuclear facilities contradicted the spirit of the agreement reached last May, we showed the installations on the two sites, as it was the director-general's first request. One site was a workshop producing daily necessities, and the other site was a military installation.

At that time, the inspection team members looked around these two sites in their capacity as official members of the IAEA and searched every nook and cranny of each room with inspection instruments as policemen search the house of a criminal.

After the inspection team members looked around the military installations, they asked for permission to look around the inside of the building again, and we allowed them to do so only to circumvent the possibility of having other IAEA members visit our country to look around them in the future. After looking around the two sites, they admitted that the sites had nothing to do with the nuclear activities. Their visit was not related to the implementation of the safeguards agreement but was permitted only thanks to our good will.

However, some officials of the IAEA Secretariat misused the visit in confirming the espionage information provided by a third country. Therefore, in a letter sent to the IAEA director-general we pointed out clearly that such groundless requests for visits or inspections would no longer be permitted and that that was the first and last time. But, on 22 December last year the IAEA director-general again asked for permission to visit, drill, and take samplings at the military installation they had already visited as well as another military installation. Saying that he would send an unofficial delegation to our country, he demanded that the issue be discussed and settled quietly.

We do not find it necessary to classify visits to the sites as open or secret. If the installations need to be shown in the course of implementing the safeguards agreement, we ought to show them, and if we think otherwise, we cannot show them, even in secret. This is a matter related to our sovereignty. Therefore, we sternly rejected the IAEA Secretariat's request.

At bilateral talks in Pyongyang from 20 and 22 January this year, the negotiating delegation of the IAEA Secretariat argued that the visit to the two sites was necessary because, first of all, the sites were related to inconsistencies found in the course of irregular inspections and, second, there was reliable evidence that the sites are related to the nuclear material.

Our side explained that such inconsistencies allegedly found in the course of irregular inspections did not exist, that the inconsistencies would be clarified through further irregular inspections, that there were no grounds to assert that the two sites were related to the inconsistencies raised by the negotiating delegation, and that the two sites are military installations with no relevance to our nuclear activities. Our side then refuted the arguments about the importance and urgency of the proposed visit the IAEA Secretariat impatiently insisted upon. Our side also demanded that the IAEA negotiating delegation identify the source of the reliable evidence for their allegations that the sites were related to nuclear activities.

The IAEA negotiating delegation did not hesitate in revealing that it was using intelligence information provided by a third country, and added that if the country in question is identified it would deteriorate relations between that country and the DPRK. When our side asked for clarification on the legal grounds for using information provided by a third country, the IAEA negotiating delegation avoided answering the question, saying that it much time is needed for such an explanation.

Citing pertinent provisions, we made it clear that the IAEA has no legal grounds for using intelligence information provided by a third country, that the agency is not the police, and that such an attempt is a violation of the agency's statute and regulations, the safeguards accord, and the spirit of the decisions of the December 1991 and February 1992 Board of Governors meetings.

An agency official who tried to put pressure on us, insisting that he had been specialized in international law, became dumbfounded at our side's rebuttal, and finally admitted that the matter concerning the use of surveillance data provided by a third country is not clearly mentioned in the agency's basic documents.

We made clear that the agency Secretariat's assertions were unreasonable from a legal point of view, and strongly urged the agency not to get implicated in the false intelligence information provided by a country hostile to us, but to return to its original standpoint as an

impartial international organization, taking into account the political and military situation prevailing on the Korean peninsula.

3. Behind-the-scenes manipulation of some officials of the IAEA Secretariat by the United States:

IAEA inspections of our country have so far been conducted under the manipulation of the United States, not according to the agency's statute and the safeguards agreement.

The IAEA is obligated to protect secrets that it obtained in the course of the inspections under Article 5 of the safeguards agreement. However, some officials of the IAEA Secretariat have handed the results of its inspections of our country over to the United States and South Korea.

THE [INTERNATIONAL] HERALD TRIBUNE, a U.S. daily newspaper, reported on 5 May 1992 that an IAEA spokesman said North Korea provided the IAEA with a list of nuclear facilities as thick as a small telephone directory on 4 May. It also said that North Korea made public the three previously undisclosed nuclear reactors.

South Korea's Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation [MBC] reported on 8 November 1992 that the agency was known to have been planning to send a high-level delegation to Pyongyang immediately after the fourth irregular inspection was over. At that time, only a few officials of the agency's Secretariat knew about this, and we received this information from the IAEA by telex on 16 November, eight days after the South Korean MBC report.

South Korea's MBC reported on 13 November 1992 that upon receiving the results of the nuclear inspections of North Korea, the U.S. Government had been closely analyzing them.

Some officials of the IAEA Secretariat continued to demand that we disclose the lists of our nuclear material and nuclear facilities submitted to the agency and, on the other hand, unilaterally made public the issues related to the inspections without any prior agreement with us.

A senior agency official told our representative there on 6 May 1992 that the agency cannot tell anyone about the content of the report which your country reported because the agency's regulations ban it from making public the content to third parties. He also said: 'I think that your country can appropriately inform the United States and Japan of the content of the report to hasten the improvement of relations between the DPRK and the United States and between the DPRK and Japan.'

On 10 June 1992, a senior agency official called an informal meeting of the members of the IAEA Board of Governors and briefed them on this visit to our country and on the course of the first irregular inspection and disclosed the capability of our country's nuclear facilities in detail.

The United States cooked up slanderous information with regard to our nuclear activities and distributed it to Japan and other countries, as well as the IAEA Secretariat.

Japan's JIJI PRESS made a false report on 16 November 1990 that according to the U.S. satellite photos obtained by the Japanese Government, there exist such nuclear facilities such as a Soviet-made research reactor, a small nuclear reactor, an enriched uranium plant, a fuel reprocessing plant, and a nuclear explosion test ground.

The United States has systematically interfered in the IAEA's inspection of us and instigated the IAEA Secretariat to impose a special inspection of us.

Last year, in a report submitted to the National Security Council at the White House, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency said that the United States should include members that the United States can trust on a special inspection team.

We notified the IAEA of our stand that we could not allow the IAEA officials from countries with which our country does not have diplomatic relations to be included on the inspection team. In accordance with the U.S. demand, however, some IAEA officials tried to send inspection team members from countries with which we do not have diplomatic relations.

The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency report, which was recently submitted to the National Security Council at the White House, noted that the United States must now induce North Korea to accept special inspection and must formulate a policy toward North Korea according to the outcome of the nuclear inspection.

The United States invited the IAEA director general to take part in a congressional hearing on 22 September last year. The United States got him to explain about our nuclear plan and forced him to conduct a special inspection and a surprise inspection [kisup sachal] of the DPRK facilities.

So far, the DPRK has sincerely accepted the nuclear inspections and clarified the so-called inconsistencies [pulilchijom] on a scientific and technological basis. Nevertheless, the United States has manipulated some officials of the IAEA Secretariat and certain member states to accept, at the IAEA board of governors meeting on 25 February, an unjust resolution demanding an inspection of DPRK military installations that have nothing to do with nuclear activities.

Various facts show that the resolution, which has been fabricated by some officials of the IAEA Secretariat and certain member countries following the United States, cannot be justified from an international viewpoint or from a scientific or technological viewpoint.

The DPRK Government sharply denounces and resolutely rejects the fabrication of the unjust resolution against the DPRK by some officials of the IAEA Secretariat and certain member states. We regard the unjust

resolution as a wanton violation of the sovereignty of the DPRK and as a robber's act to disarm the DPRK.

Some officials of the IAEA Secretariat and certain member states joined the plots and maneuvers of the United States and the South Korean authorities to toy with our country's sovereignty and security. By so doing, they committed a great crime against our people. The authority and confidence of the IAEA, which regards fairness as a principle of action, are utterly lost.

We cannot stand by with folded arms while the United States and the South Korean authorities resume the Team Spirit joint military exercises, which had been discontinued, and while they are pertinaciously committing machinations against our country in collaboration with some officials of the IAEA Secretariat.

Because of such acts, the DPRK has entered a semi-war state to safeguard its sovereignty and security and has decided to withdraw from the NPT to defend its supreme interests. This is a self-defensive measure to defend our nation's dignity and its right to survive and a just measure to safeguard the common interests of the states that do not possess nuclear weapons.

Neither pressure nor arm-twisting acts will ever work with us.

The United States must give up its outdated Cold War era way of thinking and immediately stop its imprudent practice of manipulating the IAEA to force us to open up our military installations and stifle our socialist system.

Some officials of the IAEA Secretariat and certain member states must apologize for the crimes they have committed against the Korean people. They should refrain from acting under the pressure and directive of a particular country.

The DPRK Government expresses its hope that IAEA member states and the world's peace-loving people will impartially assess, on the basis of the IAEA stipulations and the Nuclear Safeguards Accord, the issues that have arisen between the DPRK and the IAEA in the course of implementing the safeguards accord, and oppose and reject the unjust acts by the United States and some officials of the IAEA Secretariat.

Choe Tae-pok Supports Withdrawal

*SK1603000993 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 15 Mar 93*

[Press statement issued by Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea, on 15 March—read by announcer]

[Text] To cope with the grave situation which threatens the security of the country, the DPRK Government issued on 12 March a statement declaring its withdrawal

from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] as a self-defensive measure to defend the supreme interests of the country.

As everyone knows, at a time when the United States and the South Korean authorities are conducting the adventurous Team Spirit-93 nuclear military exercise, the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] accepted the resolution of conducting special inspections of DPRK military installations under the influence of U.S. manipulation. This shows that the NPT [as heard] has given up its original mission and has become abused as a contemptible organization to realize the U.S. war strategy of assaulting and dominating our Republic and the rest of the Asian countries.

Under the circumstances in which we cannot implement the duty pursuant to the NPT because of the anti-Republic strategic maneuvers by the United States, the South Korean authorities, and some impure officials of the IAEA, the DPRK was forced to take the self-defensive step of withdrawing from the NPT.

I recognize the DPRK Government's step of withdrawing from the NPT as a most just step, which reflects all North Koreans firm will and conviction to defend our people's dignity and sovereignty and safeguard the socialism of our own style gained with blood to the end. I greatly support and welcome the DPRK Government's step of withdrawing from the NPT.

Our Republic's decision to withdraw from the NPT is a just measure to cope with the impure maneuvers by the United States and some officials of the IAEA Secretariat. This is our revolutionary stand to boldly meet the reactionary forces' unjust pressure that goes against the current trends.

At a time when the Team Spirit joint military exercise driving the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of a nuclear war is being conducted, the IAEA Board of Governors meeting accepted the resolution of conducting special inspections of our general military installations. This is a wanton infringement upon our Republic's sovereignty, intolerable intervention in internal affairs, and a public hostile behavior to stifle our country's socialism by an already-planned scenario.

Our Republic's entrance in the NPT was aimed not at giving up sovereignty and at receiving pressure and sanctions by the United States and their stooges, but at removing the U.S. nuclear threat and at denuclearizing the Korean peninsula.

Our Republic has consistently maintained the policy against nuclear weapons and for peace. Our Republic has sincerely implemented the duty pursuant to the NPT. It has received the IAEA inspection several times. As a result, the integrity of our Republic's peaceful nuclear policy has been confirmed.

This nonetheless, the United States has constantly introduced and deployed nuclear weapons in South Korea

and has not withdrawn them. While conducting the Team Spirit nuclear military exercise, the United States has further strengthened its nuclear threat against the DPRK.

It goes without saying that the Team Spirit joint military exercise is entirely contrary to the idea and purpose of the NPT. The United States, the greatest nuclear power in the world, is kicking up nuclear-suspicion commotions against our country which does not possess nuclear weapons. This is very contemptible and presumptuous.

Even today when the irreproachability of our Republic's nuclear policy has been completely verified, the United States has kicked up a commotion of special inspection, which is unprecedented, through the IAEA. This is a foolish maneuver to make our nuclear issue an international issue and to justify the act of driving the issue to the stage of imposing collective sanctions against us which it has sought for some time.

Some officials of the IAEA Secretariat are playing the role of a shock brigade for the U.S. nuclear commotions against the Republic. As a result, IAEA completely deviated from its idea and competency and the principles of fairness and strict neutrality.

The IAEA Board of Governors meeting's resolution on conducting special inspection of our general military installations based on the U.S. information and data violates the IAEA stipulations and the Nuclear Safeguards Accord. In addition, there has been no such a practice. The resolution is completely unlawful. Nothing can justify the resolution.

Under the specific circumstances in which the country has remained divided and in which our Republic has always and substantially received the U.S. aggression and nuclear threat, our Republic cannot open up our military bases that are directly related to DPRK security.

If we allow special inspections, it goes without saying that our military bases will be completely opened up to the United States, a belligerent party [kyojon ilbang] vis-a-vis the DPRK; that all IAEA stipulations and regulations should be revised, and that a tragic situation—small countries acting only according to powers' will—may be a practice.

The government of our Republic's self-defensive measure of withdrawing from the NPT is a just measure to defend our people's national sovereignty and national security; to oppose the tyranny of super powers; and to safeguard the basic demand and interests of third countries and progressive people moving toward independence.

The United States, some officials of the IAEA, and the Japanese publications and press circles and some officials in particular express so-called concern about the government of our Republic's due self-defensive measure. They are raving that we should reconsider the step of NPT withdrawal and that we should reverse the NPT

withdrawal. Such a response by the United States and its following forces to our self-defensive measure is a presumptuous act which puts the cart before the horse. The United States and some Japanese figures are committing rash acts as if they took a so-called opportunity. They should act with discretion.

The parties, chiefly responsible for the fact that we were forced to withdraw from the NPT by getting us not to implement the duty pursuant to the NPT, are raving that we should reconsider the NPT withdrawal and reverse the NPT withdrawal. This is not worth reconsidering at all both logically and substantially.

In origin, joining and withdrawing from an international treaty is not only an issue related to each country's sovereignty, but also is the due right of an independent sovereign country based on international law.

Under the circumstances in which the United States is trying to undermine our national sovereignty and our country's supreme interests by using the NPT as a pretext, there is no need for us to remain as a member country of the NPT.

I demand that the U.S. authorities not adhere to the outdated thought of the cold war era and that they stop the Team Spirit joint military exercise without condition in accordance with the demand of the times. They should stop seeking the impure attempt—the special inspection maneuvers—by using the IAEA.

As we repeatedly declared, no robber-like logic and arm-twisting acts work on our people. In spite of our warnings, if the United States puts forward a new step of pressure using our self-defensive measure as a pretext for this, we will take a corresponding measure, to meet whatever the United States may put forward.

We mean what we say. The whole country, all the people, and the entire army are keenly watching the enemies' moves with high vigilance in a semi-war state according to the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Chong-il's order.

The enemies should not miscalculate our strength of the single-hearted unity among the leader, the party, and the masses and our people's will and conviction of inseparably binding the socialist fate and their fate.

In the future also, our people will not tolerate any act threatening our country's supreme interests—national independence and socialist achievements.

I take this opportunity to express the expectation that the progressive parties, organizations, and peace-loving people of all the world will extend all their support and solidarity to our Republic Government's aboveboard stand.

Yi Chong-ok's Dhaka Visit Postponed

BK1303074993 Hong Kong AFP in English 0501 GMT 13 Mar 93

[Text] Dhaka, March 13 (AFP)—A visit by North Korean Vice President Yi Chong-ok to Bangladesh has been postponed following Pyongyang's decision to pull out of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Officials here Saturday would not specify why the visit was postponed, saying only the postponement followed certain developments in North Korea.

Li was to have arrived here Sunday to start a four-day visit as special envoy of President Kim Il-song as part of a South Asian tour, including Nepal, India, and Pakistan, they said.

Social Democratic Party on Withdrawal

SK1503121693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1103 GMT 15 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 15 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party in a statement issued on March 14 fully supported the step taken by the DPRK Government to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), considering it to be a decisive option to firmly defend the national sovereignty of the country and prevent irrevocable national disaster and calamities.

"Ours is a dignified and proud nation which regards independence as its first and foremost life, and it will and can never tolerate strongarm acts or pressure from any big powers," the statement noted and went on:

"The United States which keeps its huge nuclear weapons in South Korea, while mentioning not a word about South Korea and Japan which are frantically hastening nuclear armament, is trying to impose 'collective sanctions' on the DPRK, a non-nuclear state, with outcries over 'special inspection' of it. Can one find the principle of international justice and impartiality in the U.S. double-dealing acts?

"The 'Team Spirit' military manoeuvres staged according to the nuclear war strategy and script of the United States and the clamor for 'special inspection' of our republic are grave criminal acts to impose disasters and calamities on the whole nation, irrespective [of] the North and the South, not confined to the northern half of our country.

"Anyone who truly values the dignity and sovereignty of our nation and wants peace on the Korean peninsula, cannot remain indifferent to or look with folded arms at the grave situation at present, whether he or she lives in the North or in the South.

"Our Korean Social Democratic Party expresses the expectation that all political parties, organisations and patriotic figures of South Korea who want independence, peace and reunification will positively support and

respond to the self-defensive measure of the DPRK Government, and manifests again our determination to fight, together with all the fellow countrymen, to cope with reckless anti-peace, anti-reunification moves of the United States and the South Korean group of flunkeyist traitors."

Liaison Committee Calls Emergency Paris Meeting

SK1603120093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1107 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 16 (KCNA)—An emergency meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea (Cilreco) was held in Paris on March 14.

The meeting discussed the questions of intensifying the solidarity movement supporting the peace and reunification of Korea in conformity with the requirement of the strained situation created on the Korean peninsula at present.

It was attended by former Portuguese President Marshal Francisco da Costa Gomes, chairman of the Vallon district council of Belgium and member of the Bureau of the Socialist Party of Belgium Willy Burgeon and president of the Greek committee for struggle against foreign military bases, chairman of the Western Europe committee for Korea's reunification and peace and Retired General of Greece George Pattas who are honorary chairmen of the Cilreco and its other members and senior officials of French friendship and solidarity organisations.

Secretary General of the Cilreco Guy Dupre made a report, which was followed by speeches.

A letter to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il was adopted at the meeting.

The meeting adopted a special statement calling for a powerful solidarity movement supporting the peace and reunification of Korea in compliance with the requirement of the strained situation on the Korean peninsula and an appeal to the governments, political parties and parliaments of all countries of the world, international bodies, international democratic organisations and progressive personages.

Adopted there were also letters to the U.N. secretary general and the president of the U.N. Security Council and letters of protest to the U.S. President and the general director of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The participants in the meeting decided to launch an international signature campaign denouncing the anti-DPRK moves of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges and supporting the just steps of the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and signed the signature paper.

The meeting decided to convene a world conference condemning the manoeuvres of the United States and their stooges against the DPRK and supporting the Korean people in their struggle to defend the sovereignty of the country.

Commentary Details Withdrawal Stance

SK1503022093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1145 GMT 13 Mar 93

[Commentary by station commentator Chong Pong-kil: "A Just Self-Defensive Step"]

[Text] As was already reported, on 12 March, the DPRK Government issued the statement declaring the withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT], in connection with the prevailing grave situation that threatens the national sovereignty and security.

Our Republic Government's withdrawal from the NPT is a just self-defensive step to cope with the U.S. imperialists' nuclear war maneuvers against our Republic and with the unjust acts of some officials of the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA].

As everyone knows, a touch-and-go situation has been created on the Korean peninsula at present. The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are conducting the Team Spirit-93 war exercise, nuclear test war and preliminary war to invade the north by mobilizing enormous aggression forces enough to bring about a modern war. They are alert to every possible chance to invade the North.

They conducted the Pohang landing operations by mobilizing the aggression forces, including a fleet of carriers of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, hundreds of combat warships, B1-B strategic bombers, vertical take-off planes, cannons of all types, the U.S. ground warfare forces, the U.S. Third Marines special forces, and the puppet marines. While going toward the areas near the Military Demarcation Line, they conducted the large-scale river-crossing operations, joint air strikes, and ground attacking operations.

At a time when the Team Spirit-93 war exercise is being conducted, some officials of the IAEA Secretariat and certain member nations, which follow the United States, adopted a resolution enforcing a special inspection of our military installations at the IAEA board of governor meeting on 25 February.

The Team Spirit war exercise and the decision of the IAEA Board of Governors meeting are never an accidental coincidence. This is the product of the U.S. imperialists' northward invasion maneuvers using a special inspection as a pretext. This is the infringement upon our Republic's sovereignty, an intervention in our internal affairs, and a hostile behaviors to stifle our Republic.

As for the special inspection about which the rascals are babbling, this is aimed at disarming us by opening our military installations which have nothing to do with the nuclear issue.

Based on the NPT, we allowed the IAEA inspection teams to visit our country to confirm the contents of the nuclear materials which we reported. The IAEA's inspections confirmed that our report about nuclear materials was honest and that we did not develop nuclear weapons.

This nonetheless, at the end of the last year, the IAEA suddenly put forward a proposal that our two military installations be inspected under the manipulations of the U.S. imperialists. In this regard, we revealed that they are entirely general military installations which have nothing to do with nuclear weapons. We declared that general military installations should not be inspected.

It is certain to everyone that such an act of justifying the U.S. espionage of the United States—a belligerent party [kyojon ilbang] vis-a-vis the DPRK—and the inspection of fully opening our military installations to enemies cannot be allowed. The IAEA's inspection of our facilities under the manipulation of the United States is contradictory to the IAEA stipulations.

According to the IAEA stipulations, nuclear inspections based on a third country's information and data cannot be conducted. Nonetheless, the IAEA is trying to conduct special inspections of our facilities. This is the behavior of joining the U.S. war maneuvers to disarm our Republic.

We joined the NPT to denuclearize the Korean peninsula and to remove the U.S. nuclear threat against us. The U.S. imperialists, however, has continued to bring in nuclear weapons into South Korea and turned South Korea into the nuclear forward base where approximately 1,000 nuclear weapons of various types are deployed. While conducting the Team Spirit war exercise, a nuclear test war to invade the North, they are posing a nuclear threat to us.

Rather, if we refuse to accept the special inspections of the military bases, the U.S. imperialists plan to charge the DPRK with non-implementation of the special inspections, to refer the issue concerning our country to the UN Security Council, and to try to impose collective sanctions on us.

Because we joined the NPT not to receive nuclear threats, we need not remain to be a NPT member while receiving the more vicious nuclear threat. Why one earth should we constantly receive tribulations owing to the NPT?

For this reason, as a measure to defend the national sovereignty and national supreme interests, we are forced to declare the withdrawal from the NPT.

If the U.S. imperialists threaten us with any international pressure and sanctions, they should be wholly responsible for the grave consequence arising therefrom.

Upholding the supreme commander comrade's order on assuming the complete combat mobilization posture, our people are bringing about a great revolutionary upsurge in all fields, including socialist construction and national defense building.

The U.S. imperialists should clearly know that no military threat and sanctions can check our people's advance, and they should act with discretion.

ROK Defense Minister's Speech Criticized

*SK1403003293 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 11 Mar 93*

[Chong Pong-kil's commentary: "Shameless Act of Reversing Black and White"]

[Text] According to a report, in a speech at the so-called inauguration ceremony of the new Army chief of staff, the puppet defense minister said that military threat from the North has not been reduced even slightly, and so forth. He raved that military power should be modernized and seasoned.

This is a shameless act of reversing black and white and is sophism intended to legalize the South's war maneuvers. As everyone knows, those who are leading the situation in our country to the touch-and-go situation are none other than the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets. Those who declared the resumption of the Team Spirit war exercise, a test nuclear war and preliminary war to invade the North, by challenging our consistent and sincere peaceloving efforts are none other than the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets. Those who have finally started and are staging the Team Spirit-93 war exercise defying the stern denunciation by our people and the world's peaceloving people are none other than the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets.

Even after adopting and effectuating the North-South agreement which stipulates mutual nonaggression with us, the South Korean puppets are running amok with northward aggressive war maneuvers together with the U.S. imperialists, thus infringing on the agreement.

The absurd remarks made by the puppet defense minister on the military threat by the North are shameless distortions of the reality and are sophisms reversing black and white.

This was clearly proved even by the large-scale landing operation in Pohang. Several hundred combat ships, including carriers' corps of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, B-1B strategic fighter-bombers, stealth fighter-bombers, and other modern military equipment, the Third U.S. Marine Corps, special forces, and puppet marine corps troops, have been deployed in the Pohang landing operation.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets landed in Pohang area at dawn by bombarding from the

sea and by dropping bombs from aircraft, and thus secured so-called bridgeheads. Following this, they raided deep inland with rapid mobilization power, thus playing with fire. Needless to say, this is a simulated landing attack on the northern half of the Republic.

Moreover, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling bunch mobilized new-types of operational equipment, including F-171 stealth fighter-bombers and Patriot missiles, which they claimed were effective during the Persian Gulf War. This shows that they are scheming to apply the tactics they used during the Persian Gulf War in invading our Republic.

The puppet defense minister ordered the deployment of the troops openly called as the unit for northward aggression in the current war exercise and even let the puppet air force chief of staff personally pilot an F-5 fighter to command playing with fire in the air. Not satisfied with this, he raved about someone else's threat. This is indeed preposterous and nonsensical.

The puppet defense minister made these absurd remarks while staging a large-scale war exercise intended to invade the northern half of the Republic together with the U.S. imperialists. He is indeed an impostor proficient in reversing black and white and in distorting the realities.

By raving about the nonexistent southward threat, the South Korean ruling bunch is attempting to mislead public opinion of the world and to legalize its criminal war maneuvers. However, this is a foolish act.

Today world people raised voices stating that there is a threat of northward aggression, not of southward aggression, and demanding immediate suspension of the Team Spirit joint military exercise, a large-scale war exercise intended for northward aggression.

The South Korean ruling bunch is attempting to maintain its dirty life by depending on strength of the U.S. imperialist masters and by actively joining their war maneuvers in order to crush our Republic which is vigorously advancing along the road of socialism. However, this is indeed a great mistake.

The South Korean people, who got sick and tired of the U.S. imperialists' colonial rule, will not tolerate the U.S. imperialists and their faithful stooges but will bring the culprits for the U.S. imperialists' war policy against fellow countrymen to the court of trial by history.

It is good for the South Korean puppets to clearly know that there is no room in South Korea for human trashes to survive, who are trying to maintain their dirty lives by clinging to the U.S. imperialists' sleeves.

North-South Liaison Officials Discuss Yi In-mo Return

SK1603114093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1131
GMT 16 Mar 93

[Text] Panmunjon, March 16 (KCNA)—A working contact between liaison officials of both sides of the North-South liaison office at Panmunjom for the repatriation of old man Yi In-mo, a former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army and a long-term prisoner who refused to be converted, was held at the conference hall of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission [NNSC] at Panmunjom today.

Present at the contact were two liaison officials and one medical worker from each side.

Discussed at the contact were the concrete date, time and place of repatriation and other procedural matters for the return of old Yi to the northern half of the country more than forty years after he left it.

And our side acquainted itself in detail with the present condition of old Yi In-mo in his illness.

The sides agreed to designate March 19 as the date of his repatriation, 11:00 as its time and the conference hall of the NNSC as the place of handing him and taking him over.

It was also agreed to let the liaison officials of the two sides deal with the practical matters concerning the crossing of the central division line at Panmunjom by Yi In-mo and his entry into our side's portion, the South side transfer his case history sheet and other necessary medical documents to our side and explain them to our side and medical workers of our side make a simple diagnosis. [sentence as received]

At the contact the North side conveyed to the South side the request of the wife and daughter of old Yi In-mo, hoping the South side would help Kim Sang-won and his family, who have taken utmost care of old Yi until now, and the doctor in charge accompany him to Pyongyang and then go back home.

The South side taking exception to the view, it was agreed that the sides should help them meet each other and exchange greetings at Panmunjom.

At the contact, it was also decided that 15 reporters from each side should enter the NNSC conference room to cover the scene of old Yi's return.

The South side's doctor explained at the contact about old Yi's illness and treatment, saying his ailment has been diagnosed to be pneumonia and pyothorax, his nutrition at present is in a very bad state and he can hardly move unaided.

Noting that the sides have reached a complete consensus on working formalities regarding the return of old Yi to the northern half of the country where his family lives,

the North side said it is very lucky that old Yi's repatriation, though it seems belated, has come to be realized as his family and all the fellow countrymen wish.

Army, People, Country in 'Full Combat Readiness'
SK1603102593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 16 Mar 93

["Korea in Semi-war State"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 16 (KCNA)—The whole country, Army and people have turned out to defend the socialist homeland and the gains of revolution in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which has been put in a semi-war state from March 9.

In response to the order of Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, on March 8 declaring a semi-war state to the whole country, the entire people and the whole Army, the soldiers of the Korean People's Army and the Korean people's security forces and the members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards are now closely watching every movement of the enemies, keeping themselves in full combat readiness.

Mass rallies have been held in Pyongyang, provincial seats, industrial establishments, cooperative farms, institutions and schools to vow to fulfil the order of the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army.

The ralliers expressed their determination to defend the party, the leader and the Korean-style socialist system centred on the popular masses by becoming rifles and bombs, if the enemies provoked another war in Korea.

The working people across the country are effecting a great upsurge in all domains of socialist construction with a hammer or a sickle in one hand and a rifle in the other as required by the semi-war state.

The Taean heavy machine complex, the Pongchon coal mine, the west Pyongyang locomotive corps, the Pyongyang textile mill and other industrial establishments have overfulfilled their daily assignments by more than 20 percent from the day when they received the order of the supreme commander. The cooperative farms throughout the country are going ahead with farming preparations.

People of all walks of life including youths and students are volunteering for service in the People's Army. Their number is increasing day by day. On the day when the order of the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army was issued, more than 8,200 young men and women in South Hwanghae Province volunteered for service. Over 700 people in Yangdok County, South Phyongan Province, who had taken part in the Fatherland Liberation War (June 25, 1950-July 27, 1953) formed a veterans' unit and women of the Kyejong cooperative farm, Kumchon County, North Hwanghae

Province, a women's unit of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards, resolving to do their shares in defending the country.

Young demobilized soldiers of the Simnang chemical complex, the Pyongyang sock-knitter factory and in all parts of the country pledged themselves to go back to their units and fight the enemies.

Students of Kim Il-song University, the Tongil Street senior middle school and many other universities, colleges and senior middle schools have applied for enlistment in the People's Army, vowing to become a guard detachment and shock brigade for the party in the noble struggle for defending the country, holding high the red flag handed to them by the first and second generations of the revolution.

Such looks of Korea in a semi-war state show the unshakable faith and will of the Korean people always to share the destiny with the party and steadfastly defend Korean-style socialism and part of the proud appearance of *chuche* Korea where the leader, the party and the masses are united in one mind.

Unity in Situation Where 'War May Break Out' Urged

SK1603101693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1004 GMT 16 Mar 93

["NODONG SINMUN Calls Upon Whole Party, All People and Army To Decisively Smash Aggressive Moves of Imperialists Through Singlehearted Unity"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 16 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today in an editorial calls for the whole party, all the people and the Army to unite in one mind and decisively smash the aggressive moves of the imperialists.

The present-day grave situation in which a war may break out any minute due to moves of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities to ignite a new war urgently requires that we consolidate our singlehearted unity more firmly, the editorial says, and goes on:

Singlehearted unity is the life of our socialism and the indestructible might which does not permit any one to trample upon an inch of land and a blade of grass of our republic.

As we have singlehearted unity behind the great leader, we do not know any vacillation in face of whatever war rackets the imperialists may kick up by reinforcing their Armed Forces, but are boldly countering them with dignity.

We must put bigger muscles into strengthening the singlehearted unity as the tensions mount.

Respected comrade supreme commander is the mental mainstay of our people and a symbol of victory of our socialism.

All the party members and other working people must keep themselves in full combat readiness and defend the land of their country with their lives, shouting "Long live comrade supreme commander," if the enemy pounces upon them, the editorial says.

DPRK Bans Entry of Japan's Korean Residents

*OW1603095393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0905 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Beijing, March 16 KYODO—North Korea has in addition to barring foreigners banned entry of Japan's Korean residents, except by ship, informed sources close to Pyongyang said Tuesday [16 March].

North Korea has informed the pro-Pyongyang General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) of its decision, the sources said. The measures will be taken "for the time being."

They said entry via ship is allowed because authorities can easily check identification of passengers.

The measures were taken in accordance with an order by Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, for the entire army and nation to enter "a semiwar state" from March 9 because of U.S.-South Korean military exercises, the sources said.

North Korea announced last Friday it is withdrawing from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in protest at the exercises and because of demands it open two facilities to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

South Korea's YONHAP NEWS AGENCY has reported that North Korea has stopped issuing entry visas since last Tuesday and banned all contacts with foreigners residing in North Korea.

Pro-Pyongyang Korean residents in Japan mostly enter North Korea on flights between Beijing and Pyongyang, but their entry by aircraft have not been allowed since March 9, the sources said.

There are three flights between Beijing and Pyongyang a week, which are operating as usual.

Daily Views U.S. Plan for Asian Security

*SK1303115193 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0016 GMT 13 Mar 93*

[NODONG SINMUN 13 Mar special article: "What Is Concept of All-Asia Security Cooperation Council For?"]

[Text] Japan's YOMIURI SHIMBUN has recently reported that the United States plans to manufacture in five years a so-called multinational security organ involving all of Asia. The U.S. Department of State Under Secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs will

likely announce the specific plan at a Association of Southeast Asian Nations [ASEAN] meeting to be held in Singapore in May.

U.S. strategic specialists call this organ the "All-Asia Security Cooperative Meeting" [AASCM] from "the European Security Cooperative Meeting" [ESCM]. Some publications have mentioned that this plan will make it more probable for an Asian version of the ESCM to emerge. The YOMIURI SHIMBUN said that the United States is attempting to let the AASCM play in Asia the same role as the ESCM played in accelerating the collapse of East Europe and the Soviet Union.

As the aforementioned clearly indicates, the plan to found the AASCM makes it a primary goal for the United States to suffocate socialist countries in Asia and establish its domination over this area.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught:

A basic purpose which the U.S. imperialists pursue in the Asia-Pacific area is to check socialist countries and progressive forces with strength and establish domination and control over this area.

A consistent U.S. policy in Asia is to suffocate socialist forces and establish a new order controlled and led by it. The Asia-Pacific area is not only vast but has abundant manpower and material resources. In addition, this area has more key strategic points than any other area in the world.

The United States is increasingly depending more on this area economically. Former U.S. President Bush said that the Asia-Pacific area rapidly emerged as the largest trade partner of the United States. According to official information, annual two-way trade volume between the United States and this area is estimated to be \$310 billion, which is 30 percent more than U.S.-European trade volume.

Many foreign publications admonish that the United States should strengthen its economic relations with the Asia-Pacific area in order for it to rival Europe, which is becoming more economically unified with each day. Another reason to strengthen trade relations is to overcome the economic recession and materialize a U.S. dream called "construction of a vital and prosperous United States." This is not just accidental advice.

While setting greater store in the Asia-Pacific area after the cold war ended, the United States has employed all kinds of tricks to satisfy its ambition for domination over this area. As part of this, the United States is directing the spearhead of attack at suffocating socialist countries which constitute a basic obstacle in its way of realizing its dominationist ambition. Under the condition in which it frustrated socialism in the Europe, the United States is making it a basic task of its Asia-Pacific strategy and a primary goal of its world strategy to dominate and suffocate socialism in Asia. With this

purpose, the U.S. imperialists, while fabricating a preposterous sophistry and intensifying a political and ideological offensive and economic sanctions against socialist countries, continues to deploy enormous armed force in this area and attempts to strengthen a military siege around socialist countries.

Meanwhile, the U.S. imperialists attempt to exploit the founding of a collective organ in the Asia-Pacific area as its sphere of political, economic, and military power to reign over and suffocate socialist countries and dominate and control this area. This attempt by the United States is clearly revealed in "a plan for the Asian-Pacific community," which was introduced in an article—entitled "The United States in Asia"—by former U.S. Secretary of State Baker. This plan, with the United States as the control and with a U.S.-Japan alliance as the center, aims at creating a regional community with an umbrella structure. Under this plan, U.S.-South Korean relations, U.S.-ASEAN relations, and U.S.-Australian relations will serve as ribs of this umbrella respectively.

Through this organization, the United States is attempting to seize vast raw material resources and goods-selling markets in the Asia-Pacific region and to repress the growth of anti-U.S. independent forces and to gain supremacy over them. This is the U.S. major goal and tactic intended to form a pan-Asian organ which is totally dominated and controlled by the United States.

A Japanese paper wrote that the United States is trying to continually play an important role under a big umbrella called the pan-Asian conference for security cooperation.

Under the present condition in which the United States is frantically running amok to crush popular-mass centered socialism of our own style by means of strength by focusing its aggressive Asian-Pacific strategy on our Republic, the so-called pan-Asian conference for security cooperation will serve as a tool for isolating our country and for dominating it with strength. This is clear to everyone.

No one can deny that the Team Spirit nuclear war exercise, waged with South Korea as its stage, and commotions over special inspection of our nation are products of the U.S. imperialists' Asia-Pacific strategy.

The pan-Asian conference for security cooperation is thoroughly anti-socialist, aggressive and plunderous in its character and aim.

In particular, Japan, which opened a road for dispatching troops overseas while accelerating its policy for becoming a big political and military power and which is scheming to realize its dream of a Great East-Asia Co-prosperity Sphere that has not been realized in the past, is actively supporting and cooperating with the U.S. plan. This clearly illustrates an anti-socialist character and reactionary nature of this security organization.

The U.S.-Japan conspiracy and collusion had emerged mainly as the anti-Soviet league in the past. Today,

however, they have been expressed as an anti-socialist league after the end of the cold war. This is no secret.

Formation of a pan-Asian conference for security cooperation means the appearance of such an anticommunist and antisocialist aggressive alliance in this area similar to NATO in Europe. When this organization is formed, a new collective threat will face socialist countries in Asia and new grave obstacles and difficulties will confront the Asian people's struggle to build a new independent, peaceful and prosperous Asia free from aggression and war.

This is why voices opposing and rejecting the U.S. plan resound from among Asian countries.

All facts show that the United States, which brought other countries under the U.S.-led domination system with bilateral relations as its axis in the Asia-Pacific region during the cold war era, is attempting to form its leadership system covering all areas of this region with multilateral relations as its axis.

The U.S. plan to form a pan-Asian conference for security cooperation makes the Asian people heighten their vigilance and staunchly maintain the anti-imperialist position for independence.

The U.S. imperialists' vicious and treacherous maneuvers to crush socialism and to dominate and control other countries are acts that go against current trends and block the people's aspirations.

PRC Military Official Bids Foreign Minister Farewell

*SK1603011593 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1539 GMT 15 Mar 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 15 (KCNA)—Vice-premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam met and conversed with Major General Tian Sheng, member of the Chinese People's Volunteers of the Korean-Chinese side to the Military Armistice Commission, who paid a farewell call on him today.

'Arafat Supports Kim Chong-il Order

*SK1603114293 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1055 GMT 16 Mar 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 16 (KCNA)—Foreign party and state leaders, when they met with Korean ambassadors on March 10, expressed full support to the order of the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army to switch over to a state of semi-war to cope with the prevailing situation.

President of the State of Palestine Yasir 'Arafat expressed full support to the order of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

He denounced the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises and nuclear inspection row of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets and extended firm support

and solidarity to the struggle of the Workers' Party of Korea, the DPRK Government and the Korean people.

National Chairman of the Workers' Party of Zaire Emile Kibala Bey a Nsien stressed that the order of comrade supreme commander of the Korean People's Army was a determined answer to the aggressive moves of the world reaction to stifle the DPRK which was resolutely defending the chuche idea and the banner of socialism.

He said the Workers' Party of Zaire would always stand on the side of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people.

Chairman of the national movement of genuine Lumumbist combatants of Zaire Otete Gaston Mboyo said that his party firmly supported the order of Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, and expressed militant solidarity with the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean People's Army.

He stressed that dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, with his order as the supreme commander, dealt a sledgehammer blow to the U.S. imperialists who were trying to pull down the socialist bastion and trounced those who were attempting to slander and stifle socialism and held higher the banner of socialism by publishing his classical work "abuses of socialism are intolerable".

Chairman of the People's Front of Workers, Peasants and Students of Peru and Chairman of the United Left of Peru Genaro Ledesma Izquieta said it was a self-defensive measure to defend the dignity and security of the DPRK that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, declared a state of semi-war.

KCNA Reviews 16 Mar Pyongyang Press
SK1603052293 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0447 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 16 (KCNA)—Papers here today publish news that the letter of the great leader President Kim Il-song "Young People Must Honourably Accomplish The Revolutionary Cause of Chuche Upholding The Leadership of The Party" was reported by foreign media.

Papers report that a national meeting was held to mark the 70th anniversary of the "One Thousand-ri Long Journey For Learning" covered by the Great Leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song.

NODONG SINMUN carries a solidarity message to President Kim Il-song from Joao Amazonas, chairman of the Central Committee of the Brazilian Communist Party, and a solidarity letter to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il from man Mohan Adhikari, president of the Central Committee of the Nepal Communist Party (United Marxism-Leninism), denouncing the "Team

Spirit" joint military exercises and clamor for "special inspection" of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities.

The work of Comrade Kim Chong-il "abuses of socialism are intolerable" was reported by foreign media, says the paper.

An article of the paper tells that Comrade Kim Chong-il has glorified the dignity and honour of the nation, smashing every manoeuvre of the enemy with his matchless grit and iron will.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with an editorial calling for the entire party, people and army to single-heartedly unite and decisively smash the imperialists' aggressive moves, upholding the order of respected comrade supreme commander, and MINJU CHOSON a political essay titled "we do not beg for peace".

Papers report about working people across the country bringing about a great upsurge in production and construction while keeping themselves in full combat readiness and about the beautiful tradition of unity between the army and the people displayed highly.

Appearing in the press are a statement of Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and a statement of the Central Committee of the Korean social Democratic Party supporting the statement of the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on defending the national sovereignty and supreme interests of the country.

Papers print a memorandum of the DPRK Foreign Ministry clarifying the truth of the nuclear inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency in the DPRK. The memorandum of the DPRK Foreign Ministry dated January 29 on the truth of development of nuclear weapons by South Korea was distributed as an official document of the U.N. Security Council.

Papers inform the readers that South Korean people and various countries fully supported the statement of the DPRK government declaring the withdrawal from the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

A commentary of NODONG SINMUN hits out at an "exhibition" of latest-type bombers held by the United States and South Korean war fanatics to whip up the war fever.

The paper says in a semi-monthly review of the South Korean situation that the grave situation in which a nuclear war may break out any moment has been created on the Korean peninsula due to the aggressive "Team Spirit 93" joint military exercises of the United States and the South Korean authorities.

The first session of the 8th national committee of the Chinese people's political consultative conference was opened, and the Ugandan president called for cooperation among the regional countries, papers report.

15 Mar NODONG SINMUN Review

*SK1503093793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0535
GMT 15 Mar 93*

[Review of NODONG SINMUN]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 15 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today reports that immortal classical works of the great leader President Kim Il-song were studied and reported in different countries.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to officials who had done many a good job for the society and collective, says the daily.

According to the paper, seminars on the ideology, theory and exploits of Comrade Kim Chong-il were held in different countries and foreign press organized special writes-up on the occasion of his birthday.

Carried in it are an editorial calling for the entire party members and working people to firmly arm themselves with the party's chuche-based viewpoint on war and an article under the title "Socialism Is Faith and Life of Our People".

Foreign media reported the order of Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, says the daily.

It gives accounts of rallies held at Kim Il-song University, the October 5 general automation works, the Chonchon match factory and the Chongchon co-op farm in Yonan County, South Hwanghae Province to fulfil the order of the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, reports about working people in different parts of the country effecting a great upswing in the economic construction while keeping themselves in full combat readiness, and people across the country enthusiastically volunteering to join the People's Army.

Under the headline "The Enemy Can Not Trample Upon an Inch of Land and a Blade of Grass of Our Republic" the daily carries statements published by the C.C. [Central Committee], the South Korean National Democratic Front and the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan denouncing the "Team Spirit 93" joint military exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities.

It informs the readers that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets staged ground, naval and air war exercises aimed at an allout attack on the northern half of Korea and that foreign political parties and organizations strongly denounced the "Team Spirit 93".

Seen in the paper is an article titled "Nuclear Strategy of U.S. Imperialists and 'Team Spirit'".

Edited in the daily are voices of working people supporting the DPRK Government's statement declaring the withdrawal of the DPRK from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT).

World news of the paper includes reports that the Cuban foreign minister denounced the United States for inventing an anti-Cuba "resolution" and the Syrian prime minister clarified the principled stand of Syria on the Middle East peace.

An article of the daily deals with the contradictions and discord which have become pronounced recently in the European Community.

13 Mar Pyongyang Press Review

*SK1303055393 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0502 GMT 13 Mar 93*

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 13 (KCNA)—All papers here today report the statement of the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea declaring the withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) under the headline "We Declare Self-Defensive Measure To Safeguard National Sovereignty and Supreme Interests of The Country".

They carry a report on the 7th meeting of the 9th DPRK Central People's Committee [CPC] which decided the withdrawal of the DPRK from the NPT and an account of a press conference called by the Foreign Ministry for home and foreign reporters regarding the publication of the statement of the DPRK Government.

Echoed in NODONG SINMUN are voices of working people of various strata supporting the DPRK government's statement.

Seen in the paper is a solidarity letter to the great leader President Kim Il-song from the chairman of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Nepal Communist Party (United Marxism-Leninism) who is honorary chairman of the Asian Regional Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification, denouncing the "Team Spirit" joint military rehearsal and the clamor of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities for "special inspection".

It edits repercussions upon foreign political and public circles of the letter of President Kim Il-song "young people must honourably accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche upholding the leadership of the party".

It gives an account of mass rallies held in various places of the country to fulfil the order of the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, and a press statement issued by Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council who is head of the North side's delegation to the inter-Korean high-level talks, supporting the order.

An article of the paper tells that the Army and the people defended guerrilla zones in unity during the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

A solidarity letter came to the C.C., the Workers' Party of Korea from the chairman of the Workers' Party-Communists of Sweden denouncing the "Team Spirit 93" joint military maneuvers, according to the paper.

Conveyed in the paper are voices of foreigners saying the Korean People's Army is ever-victorious as it has the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as its supreme commander.

The "Team Spirit 93" is under fire in different countries, says the press.

The press informs the readers that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets staged large-scale joint air operation and ground offensive operation exercises.

According to NODONG SINMUN, citizens and students in Seoul staged an anti-American protest in demand of the pullout of the U.S. forces from South Korea and a death sentence to a U.S. imperialist aggression army soldier for the sex-murder of a woman Yun Kum-i.

The "resolution on a special inspection" against the DPRK is denounced in various countries, reports the press.

World news of the press includes reports that comrade Fidel Castro referred to the essence of capitalist society, the Egyptian president rejected the western media slander against his country, an annual meeting of the funcinpec party was held in Cambodia and a peace agreement was signed between the government side and opposition leaders in Afghanistan.

NODONG SINMUN introduces the achievements of China in science and technology.

The paper runs an article exposing the reactionary nature of the U.S. plan to create the "All-Asia Security Cooperation Council".

The daily deals with the growing Japan-U.S. trade dispute.

South Korea

Further Reportage on DPRK Nonproliferation Withdrawal

DPRK Envoy on War Possibility

SK1503233193 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 16 Mar 93 p 1

[REUTER/YONHAP from Geneva]

[Text] On 15 March, Yi Chol, ambassador of the North Korean Mission to UN organizations in Geneva, confirmed the report that North Korea had stopped issuing visas to foreigners. He also warned that war with the ROK [hanguk] may break out "anytime."

During the interview that day, Yi Chol said that "bullets and cannon balls are flying toward the North Korean side during the ROK-U.S. joint military exercise." He also said that "if we fire back, this means war." He went

on to say: "This is why I stress the fact that a situation that may lead to a full-scale war is developing."

'No Signs' of Military Movement

SK1603121793 Seoul YONHAP in English 1210 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—Despite the North's recent declaration of a quasi-war time state in connection with the Team Spirit military exercise in the South, no signs have been seen to date of any unusual military movement in North Korea, military officials said Tuesday.

The officials at the Defense Ministry and the Joint Chiefs of Staff said the South has been keeping a sharp eye on North Korea following the North's withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT).

"Thus far, however, no military movements matching the declared quasi-war time state have been detected," one of the officials said.

Noting that North Korea used to order a state of battle mobilization preparation whenever a Team Spirit exercise took place in the South, a Defense Ministry official said that "despite the quasi-war time state declared, the military movements seen in the North so far were of the same type as those detected during past Team Spirit periods."

It was learned that Korean and U.S. military authorities have judged that if no unusual military movement matching the quasi-war time state would be seen in the North as now, there will be no need to leave U.S. troops participating in the Team Spirit in Korea after the joint exercise.

Earlier in the day, it was reported that South Korean defense authorities were thinking of asking the U.S. to leave part of the U.S. troops taking part in the Team Spirit in Korea to better prepare against threats from the North.

Meanwhile, a senior officer at the U.S. Forces in Korea met Defense Ministry officials Tuesday to look into the background that led South Korea to study asking for the continued presence in Korea by the Team Spirit forces.

DPRK Sets Conditions on Treaty Talks

SK1603004393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0030 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 (YONHAP)—North Korea said on Monday that it was willing to discuss rejoining the nuclear nonproliferation treaty if certain conditions were met, such as permanent suspension of the South Korea-U.S. "Team Spirit" military exercise, according to Japan's KYODO News Service.

North Korean ambassador for international organizations Yi Chol said in Geneva that other conditions were that the United States remove its nuclear threat to North

Korea, that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) stop obeying the only superpower (the United States) and that the IAEA Secretariat be operated fairly, KYODO reported.

Yi accused the United States of creating tension on the Korean peninsula and said that the shooting in the demilitarized zone on March 11 implied that war may break out. If the U.S. Administration stopped the Team Spirit military exercise, North Korea was willing to talk to the United States, resume dialogue with South Korea and continue normalization discussions with Japan, Yi said.

DPRK Urges U.S. Koreans Not To Visit

*SK1603012393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0114 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Los Angeles, March 15 (YONHAP)—The mood in North Korea is expected to be low-key for the April 15 birthday of paramount leader Kim Il-sung, with fewer events than in previous years and no Korean guests from abroad.

Organizations of pro-Pyongyang Korean residents in the United States have been asked not to accept applications to visit North Korea for the time being, sources close to the organizations said Monday.

The North Korean move seems to have been taken in connection with its recent decision to withdraw from the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, observers here said.

Every year, Pyongyang has allowed visits by Korean residents from America for Kim's birthday, but not this year, the sources said, predicting a quiet birthday in for their leader. Kim Chong-il, the president's son and heir-apparent, also toned down his birthday festivities in February.

DPRK Has '6 or 7' Nuclear Weapons

*SK1603031993 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 16
Mar 93 p 1*

[Text] In the National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee's closed-door hearings, Dr. Kim Tae-u, senior researcher at Korea Institute for Defense Analysis, said on 15 March: It is certain that North Korea possesses 6 or 7 nuclear weapons at present. Since October 1986, North Korea has apparently extracted at least 14 to 15 kilograms of plutonium and may have up to 40 to 50 kilograms of plutonium.

Reaction to DPRK Withdrawal Decision Continues

ROK May Ask U.S. Troops To Remain

*SK1603024093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0229 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—South Korea may ask the United States to keep some of the forces and

equipment now participating in the annual Korea-U.S. military exercise "Team Spirit" in South Korea for some time after the drill officially ends Thursday because of rising tensions on the Korean peninsula, according to an informed Defense Ministry source.

North Korea announced last week it was withdrawing from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and threatened to "take whatever actions necessary to defend our sovereignty," implying it wouldn't rule out going to war with the South.

The source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Tuesday that the forces and equipment Seoul might ask Washington to keep here temporarily were part of the marine amphibious force (stationed on Okinawa), the aircraft carrier USS Independence (based in Yokosuka), F-117A stealth bombers and B-1B bombers.

"We could consider consulting with the United States on ways to postpone the withdrawal of U.S. forces and equipment participating in the Team Spirit exercise for the time being, in preparation for escalation of tensions on the peninsula after Pyongyang has walked away from the NPT," the source speculated.

The ministry would report to the National Assembly national defense committee on countermeasures in the wake of North Korea's leaving the treaty, and on Pyongyang's declaration of a state of "semi-war," the source said.

At the same time, he said, the ministry was mulling whether to ask the U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) to elevate the "Watch Con" status, a level of collecting intelligence on military movements in North Korea in accordance with the level of tensions on the peninsula, to "Watch Con II (active surveillance)."

The status is called by the USFK commander in an attempt to gather North Korean military movements and is divided into four levels from IV, the lowest, to I. The U.S. military does not release the Watch Con level.

Watch Con III is in force during Team Spirit, the source explained. Watch Con is different from Def Con, which signals the level of defense and preparedness of the armed forces in accordance with development of tensions.

ROK Minister To Visit U.S. on Issue

*SK1603073393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0710 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu visits the United Nations, Washington and Tokyo from March 23 for consultations on North Korea's nuclear crisis, the ministry announced Tuesday. He will be at the United Nations March 23-25 and talk with Secretary-general Butrus Butrus-Ghali and Terence O'Brien, New Zealand's U.N. Ambassador and current chairman of the Security Council.

Last minute arrangements are under way for Han to hold special consultations with the five permanent members of the security council to discuss possible U.N. actions to persuade North Korea out of its decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), officials said.

The foreign minister will be in Washington March 25-30, where he will meet with his Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Defense Secretary Les Aspin, U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor, National Security Council adviser Anthony Lake and congressional leaders. Han's visit was pushed up from the planned early April after North Korea's announcement last week it was bolting from the NPT.

Pyongyang's move came after the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) demanded to see two highly suspected sites believed to store nuclear waste from plutonium extraction. He will visit Tokyo March 31 to April 2 for negotiations with Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe and possibly with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Foreign Minister Discusses Issue

*SK1603021193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0158 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—South Korea will take active part in multilateral security dialogue, especially for regional cooperation on problems like North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), Foreign Minister Han Song-chu said Tuesday.

It wanted to solve Pyongyang's nuclear problem without taking it as far as United Nations sanctions and would make all diplomatic efforts for this purpose, Han said in a briefing to President Kim Yong-sam. The ministry would strengthen trade and technology diplomacy as well by providing personnel and material support to all overseas missions, he said.

"The government will closely watch the developments in regional security dialogue and start out with active participation in the July meeting of foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and preceding working-level meeting in May in Singapore," Han told the president.

"The government will also seek mid- and long-term plans in such dialogue not only through ASEAN but with neighboring nations in Northeast Asia for pan-Asia-Pacific level negotiations," the foreign minister said. Seoul plans to attend the North-Pacific security dialogue in Vancouver later this month and the Asia-Pacific round table in Kuala Lumpur June 6-9. Five-party regional talks among Korea, Japan, United States, Australia, and Canada are planned for Cheju Island sometime in September.

But these multilateral forums will stay within the principle that issues on the Korean peninsula must be solved

by the directly involved parties, South and North Korea, Han said. The ministry believed North Korea left the NPT to hide the progress of its nuclear weapons development and to turn public attention away from its domestic problems, he said.

"The ministry will exercise caution so that the current crisis will not develop into an emergency situation on the Korean peninsula," he told the president. "The government will spend all its diplomatic efforts to solve North Korea's nuclear problem at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and take joint steps through close consultations with the U.N. Security Council and other allies. "We will try so that the matter can be resolved without going as far as sanctions," he said.

The ministry would focus its trade diplomacy at joining the ranks of advanced countries and start by strengthening staff and material support at home and at overseas missions, he said. It would seek an economic recovery through aggressive export diplomacy and science-technology cooperation, he said.

Kim Urges Foreign Power Persuasion

*SK1603061593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0600 GMT
16 Feb 93*

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam instructed Foreign Minister Han Song-chu on Tuesday to get the United States, Japan, China and Russia to help persuade North Korea to accept outside inspections of its nuclear facilities within three months. Kim demanded that North Korea reconsider its decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty as soon as possible and accept outside inspections.

"The government should use all of its available diplomatic capability to persuade North Korea to retract its decision to withdraw from the NPT and accept international inspections of its nuclear installations within three months," Kim said. South Korea should do so with the help of its allies—the United States and Japan—as well as Russia and China, Kim told Han.

Kim reiterated to Han his government's position with regard to the North Korean nuclear issue in the strongest terms yet after he had received an annual policy report from the foreign minister.

North Korea was disappointing the peace-loving Korean people in the South as well as people around the world, and it was seeking isolation, but the South never wished the North to be isolated in the world community, he said. South Korea's relations with the United States and Japan had been the basis for its diplomacy, he said.

Kim, saying his government hoped to continue to strengthen its ties with the two allies for its diplomatic efforts aimed at maintaining peace and unifying the country, instructed his foreign minister to try and induce "constructive contribution" from China, which has the greatest influence over North Korea of the four big powers.

South Korea ought to take active part in any international effort to exert persuasive influence or pressure on North Korea as a solution to the Korean problem had been made more difficult by Pyongyang's decision to withdraw from the NPT, Kim said.

On another subject, the president said equitable agreements in the Uruguay round of global trade negotiations were desirable for the interest of the nation. As for the problem of liberalizing rice imports, the government should do its utmost to protect Korean farmers in its negotiations, Kim told the minister.

To maintain continued economic growth, it was necessary for the country to secure and develop the American market, he said. For that purpose, the government should try to remove any factor that caused trade friction between the two countries.

Kim told Han that the Foreign Ministry must play a leading role in foreign trade negotiations in close consultation with the Economic Planning Board, the Trade, Industry and Resources Ministry other ministries concerned.

Commenting on Korea's relations with Japan, Kim instructed Han to undertake a thorough investigation of the Korean comfort women issue while working out measures to compensate the victims of the sexual abuse by Japanese soldiers during World War II. The Foreign Ministry should take a creative initiative for the development of security and economic cooperation with the nations in the Asia-Pacific region, he said.

As for possible summit meetings, Kim said they should be held for substantial results rather than for show. The government should not waste money on such events, Kim said.

Kim Issues National Security Warning

*SK1603052593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0517 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—South Korean President Kim Yong-sam, watching a joint U.S.-Korea military exercise, warned Tuesday against sacrificing national security for illusions about reunification, but added that "we must do our best to achieve peaceful reunification of the divided land."

Peaceful reunification was a historic task facing "the current generation of the Korean people" and North Korea should carry out reforms to "join us in South Korea in this historic task," he said while visiting the site of "Team Spirit" maneuvers in central South Korea. Strengthening the deterrent against war was vital in view of the current tensions on the Korean peninsula, and Team Spirit was intended to keep the tensions from developing into war, he said.

North Korea took the world by surprise by announcing that it was pulling out of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation

Treaty last week, so Team Spirit was of added significance and the South Korea-U.S. combined forces should use the exercise to prepare for any emergency, Kim said. During his visit, Kim was taken for a ride in a U.S. air force fighter.

Kim Predicts Renewed Dialogue

*SK1603065193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0633 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam predicted Tuesday that North Korea will agree to resume inter-Korea dialogue once the joint South Korea-U.S. military exercise "Team Spirit" is over. It was an encouraging sign that South and North Korea had agreed at talks in the truce village of Panmunjom earlier in the day on the repatriation of Yi In-mo, a North Korean guerrilla fighter, Kim said. The return of Yi, who was captured during the Korean war (1950-53) and has served more than 30 years in prison for refusing to renounce communism, has been a stumbling block for inter-Korean efforts for reconciliation.

As a result of Tuesday's agreement, the door for inter-Korea dialogue, which had been tightly closed, was slightly ajar, the president said, according to presidential spokesman Yi Kyong-chae. Kim made these observations at a luncheon for Chu Kyong-sok, head of the office of National Tax Administration, and 14 other administrators of governmental agencies, Yi said.

Apparently because of some sort of internal trouble, North Korea was showing that it was readying for war, blaming the Team Spirit exercise, Yi said, but judging by intelligence reports, there were no troop movements or preparations for war in North Korea.

Yi also denied some press reports that Kim planned to visit the United States in April for a summit with U.S. President Bill Clinton. "The reports are not true," Yi said. "President Kim has no plans to visit foreign countries before July." Earlier, receiving a report from Foreign Minister Han Song-chu, Kim said his government would not try to arrange summit meetings just for show, wasting state money.

In the afternoon, Kim met with Choe Chang-yun, government administration minister, and said the goal of his administration was to trim the fat off the burgeoning government and make it smaller but more efficient and strong.

One way of rooting out official corruption, Kim added, was to introduce fair and equitable employment practices. Ranking government officials, therefore, should introduce fair and predictable personnel management, Kim said. Kim instructed Choe to raise the salaries for government officials to those of employees of government-financed organizations.

Kim: ROK To Try To Persuade DPRK

SK1503034393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0232 GMT
15 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 15 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam told his government Monday that it should try its best to persuade North Korea to retract its decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty [NPT] and accept simultaneous nuclear inspections with South Korea.

Kim gave the instruction after he received a report from Han Wan-sang, Deputy Prime Minister and National Unification Minister. Han was the first cabinet minister to report to the president.

The government was repatriating Yi In-mo, a North Korean guerrilla fighter, to the North to promote reunions of separated families and to foster better inter-Korean relations, Kim said. The National Unification Board should work to attain results from inter-Korean dialogue, which was expected to resume after the joint South Korea-U.S. military exercise Team Spirit, Kim told Han.

"The most important factor in inter-Korean relations is the restoration of mutual trust," Kim said. "Mutual and simultaneous inspections of nuclear facilities between the South and the North should be carried out in order to prevent heightening of tension around the Korean peninsula because of the nuclear problem."

South Korea should take advantage of international developments while strengthening its cooperation with the United States, Japan, China, and Russia to achieve unification, Kim said. The board must give top priority to reuniting separated families and work harder to resolve problems, and the South should try and persuade the North to fulfill agreements the two sides have already signed, Kim added. The shortest route to unification was to boost exchanges of personnel and other activities, but these exchanges should be aimed at recovering the homogeneity of the Korean people, he said.

The National Unification Board should consult with other ministries to study ways to form an atmosphere conducive to investment in the North by South Korean businesses, Kim said. The president told Han to greatly increase the inter-Korean cooperative fund so that it could be used in various unification efforts.

Describing the coming five years as the most crucial period for unification, Kim said that the two Koreas should enter the stage of reconciliation and cooperation to lay the groundwork for unification.

Kim was scheduled to receive a report from Yi Hoe-chang, chairman of the Board of Audit and Inspection, on plans to form a committee for the prevention of corruption and on the direction of the board's anti-corruption activities later in the day.

ROK Committee Urges Stern Measures

SK1603103193 Seoul YONHAP in English 1016 GMT
16 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONYAP)—The Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee of the National Assembly urged North Korea on Tuesday to accept special nuclear inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) as well as mutual inter-Korean inspections.

In a statement issued over North Korea's recent withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT), the committee also urged the South Korean Government to be fully prepared to cope sternly with any provocative threat North Korea may pose to the South following the NPT revocation.

The statement said the Pyongyang announcement to withdraw from the NPT is an act violating the basic spirit of the United Nations Charter and also of going against the wish of the 70 million Korean people craving for peaceful unification.

"North Korea should be held responsible for all the consequences that may result from their withdrawal from the NPT," the committee said.

Military May 'Step Up' Surveillance

SK1603060193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0546 GMT
16 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—South Korean Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae said Tuesday that the government was carefully considering asking the United States to leave in South Korea some of its forces and equipment participating in the annual Korea-U.S. joint military exercises, Team Spirit, here as tensions on the peninsula were running high.

Seoul was making "every effort to persuade North Korea to revoke its decision to withdraw from the nuclear non-proliferation treaty and to get rid of nuclear threats by stepping up diplomatic cooperation with international agencies like the United Nations and with the United States," he told a National Assembly defense committee hearing.

"The military is also working out military countermeasures in preparation for any eventuality," Kwon said in testimony to the committee. "If tensions on the Korean peninsula are raised by North Korea, South Korea and the United States will step up surveillance activities even after the exercise ends."

Kwon, noting that North Korea conducted around 70 tests of high explosives in the 1980s, said that the communist country might already have developed a detonator for nuclear device.

"In view of the fact that North Korea has already successfully test fired the Rodong 1 ballistic missile with a range of 1,000 kilometers and is now working on a

Scud-X missile with an extended range of 1,500-odd kilometers, North Korea is believed to have the capability of projecting nuclear weapons," Kwon told the committee.

Though Pyongyang had notified the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that it had extracted some 90 grams of plutonium from its nuclear reactors at Yongbyon, the IAEA believed that the country had produced more plutonium, Kwon said.

"We have confirmed that North Korea is hurriedly trying to obliterate evidence by clearing the test site of high explosives at Yongbyon prior to inspections by the agency," he said.

In later testimony before the committee, Defense Ministry Arms Control Coordinator Pak Yong-ok said that North Korea's decision to walk away from the NPT "might be an attempt to have its nuclear facilities recognized by the world community."

Pak said he couldn't rule out the possibility of North Korea's unleashing a full-scale attack on the South given the current circumstances.

Committee members attacked the government for being complacent on the North Korean nuclear issue and asked what countermeasures the government was contemplating. Rep. Kang Chang-song of the opposition Democratic Party urged the government not to take excessive action but to continue dialogue with Pyongyang despite the current situation. Rep. So Su-chong of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party accused the government of being too complacent in its non-nuclearization policy with the North Koreans. He also attacked the government for lacking the ability to gather information on North Korea and asked what countermeasures the government had prepared. The committee decided to ask Kim Tok, director of the Agency for National Security planning, to testify about government countermeasures in the afternoon.

ROK Defense Ministry on Withdrawal

SK1603091793 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 16 Mar 93 p 3

[Article by correspondent Kim Chae-hong: "Analysis and Countermeasures by Ministry of National Defense"]

[Text] The Ministry of National Defense [MND] has analyzed North Korea's recent alarming moves and has tentatively concluded that their actions are premeditated in preparation for dealing with the Team Spirit exercise and declaring its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT].

Accordingly, the dominant view within the MND is that there is no need to aggravate tension on the Korean peninsula by formulating measures to counter North Korea's activities immediately.

Measure To Control Society

The MND and the ROK Joint Chiefs of Staff [JCS] observed that recent North Korean activities were not military but were a posture of mobilization intended to deal with the impact of the international community's reaction to its declaration of withdrawal from the NPT, as well as to deal with a surprise attack and sanctions that may be imposed on it for its withdrawal. They also observe that this step was also designed to exercise control over the whole society.

Basing its judgment on how the situation developed, the MND's position is that although it will proceed with the Team Spirit exercise as planned, it will not launch military countermeasures against North Korea.

Concerning a rumor that the United States was requested to postpone the withdrawal of its aircraft carrier Independence and other equipment after the end of the main tactical training of the Team Spirit exercise, a relevant JCS official said that the ROK and U.S. Governments may have to discuss this possibility. Thus, he indicates support for strengthening military deterrent power.

Leaving Team Spirit Exercise Troops Behind Is Not Necessary

However, policy-making authorities in the MND said that although completion of the Team Spirit exercise will be officially announced on 19 March, the United States' reinforcement troops and equipment will not withdraw immediately, and that their withdrawal is to be completed by early April according to the exercise plan. He pointed out that it is not necessary for our government to request immediately that the United States postpone withdrawal of its troops and equipment.

The mobilization exercise of ground forces and the landing exercise from the sea that are included in the Team Spirit exercise are scheduled to be completed on 18 March. After this, however, time will be allowed for maintenance of equipment and preparations for withdrawing troops.

A relevant MND official revealed that major equipment including the aircraft carrier Independence will remain until the end of this month, and troops will return to their home bases by unit.

He said the MND's policy is that it will formulate appropriate measures after assessing North Korea's behavior during this period.

According to the JCS source, the ROK-U.S. combined strategic information collection system covering North Korea has entered the state of "Watch Con (Watch Condition) 3"—a state of intensive surveillance.

Watch Con has four grades to denote the degree of intensity of the military information collection activities as part of the military strategy to prevent war. This

operational term is different from Def Con (Defense Condition), which means troops and equipment actually enter into a state of alert.

Watch Con 3 is the grade immediately before Watch Con 2, which is issued during the semi-war state. During training and ordinary times, the state of Watch Con 4 is maintained.

The ROK-U.S. Combined Forces Command issued Watch Con 3 in the wake of the ax murder incident in August 1976 when North Korean troops murdered U.S. troops in Panmunjom; during the 1988 Seoul Olympiad; and on the eve of the ROK and U.S. presidential elections last November.

The alert states used to be operated comprehensively, and when Def Con 3 was issued, Watch Con 3 was also issued. However, the concept of the new strategy is that Watch Con is issued first. Then, after accurately determining the opponent's military moves, a decision is made as to the appropriate operational action.

The ROK and U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff authorities, at the 14th military committee meeting (MCM) held in October last year, agreed to change the existing strategy, by which reinforcement troops are dispatched after war breaks out, into a preventive strategy by which rapid deployment units (FDO) are dispatched when a war crisis has heightened to a certain degree. The strategic information system assesses the degree of the war crisis, and the ROK-U.S. military information authorities apply some 200 criteria to assess the signs of the North Korean provocation.

The MND policymakers said that even after the withdrawal of the U.S. troops and equipment has been scheduled, the dispatch of mobile forces is possible according to the FDO strategy concept. They added that, at least for the next 10 days, intensive surveillance by means of the information system covering the North, instead of reinforcing military force, will suffice.

Inter-Korean Business Unchanged

*SK1603090193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0849 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—There has been no significant change in contacts between South and North Korean businessmen abroad in spite of mounting tension in North Korea following its decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), businessmen said Tuesday.

Since Pyongyang announced the withdrawal last week, businessmen from the Samsung, Daewoo and Lucky-Goldstar Groups in China, Hong Kong, Japan and New York have had no difficulty arranging meetings with North Korean businessmen and diplomats, they said.

They have found that North Korea still wants to push ahead with joint-venture projects with South Korean companies.

The North Koreans say there is no change in North Korea's policy of promoting economic cooperation with South Korean companies despite its decision to pull out of the NPT.

Based on this, the businessmen speculated that the North Korean action heightening tension on the Korean peninsula was aimed at its own people.

Paper Urges Expanded Intelligence

*SK1503131893 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 15
Mar 93 p 3*

[Article by reporter Pak Tu-sik: "Urgent Need To Strengthen the Capability To Gather Intelligence on North Korea—ROK Government's Agony Over Its Limited Capability To Gather Nuclear Intelligence"]

[Text] International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] Director General Hans Blix visited North Korea's Yongbyon area 11-16 May last year. This was the first visit by an atomic energy expert. Following this, an IAEA inspection team conducted an ad hoc inspection of the North Korean nuclear facilities for 10 days, beginning on 25 May 1992.

Upon learning the result of this inspection, diplomatic, national security, and intelligence officials at home were astonished at the U.S. capability to gather intelligence on North Korea. This was because the on-the-spot inspections have proven that the U.S. assessment of the North Korean nuclear reprocessing facility in Yongbyon gathered by satellite pictures, of which the United States had informed the ROK, is almost correct.

The Central Intelligence Agency had indicated that North Korea is building a big 180-meter-long concrete five-story plant and that it is presumed to be a reprocessing facility, given the presence of tall chimneys. This intelligence report was proven to be almost identical to results of on-the-spot inspections. Only the length of the plant, which had been presumed to be approximately 200 meters, was a little different.

Since the mid-1980's, the United States has constantly informed the ROK that North Korea was building a reprocessing facility in Yongbyon. In late April 1989, when the United States judged that it had accumulated concrete evidence and that it could no longer leave North Korea's secret nuclear program intact, it presented Pak Chol-on, then presidential policy adviser who was considered to be a policy maker in the ROK Government, with all of the evidence. Adviser Pak Chol-on, who was visiting the United States then, attended a CIA briefing in which satellite pictures were shown. It has been learned that the CIA presented Pak Chol-on with data showing the hour-by-hour construction of the reprocessing plant. As a result, the ROK Government turned on a red warning light on the North Korean nuclear program.

As shown above, ROK Government officials unanimously say that we have no alternative but to rely almost totally on the United States when it comes to intelligence on the North Korean nuclear program. They also say that it is difficult to know more about the North Korean nuclear program because of our limitations in technology and intelligence gathering. A good example is the U.S. capability to gather intelligence by satellite. The U.S. satellites have tried to detect the nuclear facilities in Yongbyon, North Korea, since the early 1980's.

However, the one-way flow of intelligence has often caused unnecessary misunderstandings. During the Sixth Republic we could easily hear some government officials express doubts about the U.S. intelligence on the North Korean nuclear facilities in Yongbyon, saying that it was "exaggerated."

This incredulity about North Korea's nuclear capability was based mainly on the low standard of its nuclear energy technology, which was often compared to "a paper tiger."

However, while there was no way to prove this, nor was there data to disprove it, the IAEA inspections showed that the data collected by U.S. intelligence was not much different from fact.

There has been increasing concern about the independent ability of our government to collect information on North Korea's nuclear capability. The channels through which our government can collect information on the North Korean nuclear capability are the United States, the IAEA, and human intelligence, that is, the figures inside North Korea. Of these, our strong point is human intelligence. The United States regarded the lack of human intelligence as its greatest shortcoming in compiling its information on North Korea's nuclear capability. The United States is said to have been able to pinpoint the Iraqi nuclear facilities thanks to the human intelligence. However, North Korea, which is closed more tightly than any other country in the world, leaves little room for leakage of information through human intelligence. Nevertheless, our government is said to have been doing its best, in a fashion, to collect information from figures in North Korea.

The two sites in Yongbyon, which became the focal issue in the IAEA's ad hoc inspections, gave rise to controversy as to who was the initial informer. Reading the North Korean statement on its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] and North Korean Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam's letter to the UN Security Council, we note this claim North Korea makes. Since its third round of inspections in August last year, the IAEA has been demanding a visit to the two sites in Yongbyon which North Korea claims to be military facilities. North Korea persistently asserted that this demand by the IAEA is based on unjust information provided by the United States. Withdrawing from the NPT, North Korea used the expression "unfair IAEA Secretariat staff members."

However, this assertion made by North Korea is largely unreasonable. Since the Iraqi incident, the IAEA has discussed using information provided by a third country, and intensified its inspection function by deciding that it should stop the nuclear development of the countries in question by using the information provided by a third country if necessary.

We should have "a balanced ability to analyze information" so that we can formulate a correct policy toward the North. This is the lesson our government ought to learn in dealing with the North Korean nuclear issue.

PRC Role in Dialogue on DPRK Withdrawal Reported

ROK Seeks PRC Influence

SK1603002193 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1200 GMT 15 Mar 93

[Report by station correspondent Kim Chin-su]

[Text] Prompted by its anticipation of PRC's constructive efforts to resolve North Korea's nuclear issue, the government is quickening its diplomatic pace. In a bid to resolve North Korea's nuclear issue, the government is actively promoting ROK-PRC foreign minister talks to be held during the Economic and Social Commission of Asia and Pacific meeting which is to be held in Bangkok next month. This means that although the visit of PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen to the ROK is officially set, the ROK Government can not wait until then.

ROK Embassy in the PRC is also quickening its pace. It was learned that ROK Ambassador No Chae-won occasionally contacted PRC's key Beijing officials related to the ROK, such as Vice Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin and Department of Asian Affairs Director Wang Yingfan, to ask that the PRC exercise its influence on North Korea so that North Korea reverses its decision to withdraw from the nuclear nonproliferation treaty.

In the event of economic sanctions against North Korea by international society, the PRC, which supplies more than 90 percent of North Korea's oil supply, will inevitably be put in an embarrassing situation. It was learned, accordingly, that the PRC is accepting our request on the whole.

At the same time, the government plans to dispatch a delegation to closely grasp the present situation surrounding North Korea's nuclear issue and directly convey its position to the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] as the IAEA special Board of Governors will convene some time this week to deal with North Korea's nuclear issue.

The government, in particular, is prudently considering sending high-ranking officials above the vice-minister level to the IAEA because of the significance of North Korea's action this time.

PRC Said Against 'Strong Stand'

*SK1603023193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0211 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] United Nations, March 16 (YONHAP)—The permanent members of the United Nations Security Council held private consultations Monday on what to do with North Korea's decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT].

The United Nations held an unofficial Security Council meeting last Friday, after the United States tried to enlist a security council agreement in compelling North Korea to honor its commitment to the NPT and open nuclear facilities to outside inspections.

China, however, prevented the Security Council from taking a strong stand on North Korea's withdrawal from the NPT.

An official at the South Korean representative office at the United Nations said: "It is premature to predict any kind of United Nations sanctions against North Korea, as the prevailing atmosphere among the permanent council members right now is for more talks on the issue."

New Zealand ambassador to the United Nations Christopher O'Brien, who is chairman of the Security Council for the month of March, is contacting the permanent members of the council separately to assess their opinions.

The Security Council could convene an official meeting within this week to adopt an official appeal urging North Korea to retract its decision to withdraw from the NPT, the official said, requesting anonymity.

The official said the council was expected to base any further action on North Korea's response to the outcome of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors meeting scheduled for Thursday.

Another official said there was a possibility that the United Nations could send the secretary-general or his special envoy to Pyongyang to explain the Security Council's appeal before adopting any resolution on sanctions.

PRC Urges Dialogue Resolution

*SK1303081593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0534 GMT
13 Mar 93*

[Text] Beijing, March 13 (YONHAP)—China said Saturday it hoped that the situation on the Korean peninsula would continue to progress in the direction of detente and stability. A Foreign Ministry spokesman made the remark when asked to comment on North Korea's announcement Friday that it was withdrawing from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. "China has constantly supported non-nuclearization of the Korean peninsula," he said. The reason for Pyongyang's decision should be addressed in dialogue, he said. "The position

of China is that these issues should be properly settled through talks in a way contributory to the universal validity of the Nonproliferation Treaty."

North, South Contact Meeting Discusses Yi In-mo Visit

*SK1603044393 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
0410 GMT 16 Mar 93*

[Text] The North and the South this morning held a contact between liaison officials at the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission to discuss the visit of old man Yi In-mo to the North. At the contact, our side revealed that it will send old man Yi to the North on 18 March through Panmunjom.

Our side said that since he is sick, our side will evacuate him by helicopter from Pusan University Hospital, where he has been hospitalized to Panmunjom, and that he will be accompanied by Kim Sang-won, who has been taking care of old man Yi, and by relevant Red Cross hospital officials.

At today's contact, So Sang-yol, doctor in charge of internal medicine at the Red Cross hospital, handed over diagnoses and a clinical report of old man Yi In-mo to a doctor from the North side, and explained his physical status.

Meanwhile, old man Yi yesterday afternoon submitted a request to visit the North to the National Unification Board [NUB] through a Red Cross official, and the NUB issued a certificate of permission.

In the request, old man Yi did not provide the exact period of the visit but indicated, "at the earliest possible date." He noted he plans to visit his five family members including Kim Sun-im, his wife living in Mangyongdae district, Pyongyang, and his daughter.

North, South Set 19 Mar Return

*SK1603054693 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
0510 GMT 16 Mar 93*

[By correspondent Chang Kyong-kyu]

[Text] The North and South held a contact of liaison officials this morning and discussed the repatriation of Mr. Yi In-mo to North Korea. At the contact, they agreed that the South would hand Mr. Yi over to the North at the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at 1100 on 19 March. Two liaison officials and two doctors will be present on this occasion.

The two sides also agreed that Dr. Choe Chol-su of Pusan National University Hospital would explain Yi's medical history to the North Korean doctor and hand a letter of Yi's medical history to the North 30 minutes before the repatriation.

They also agreed that Mr. Kim Sang-won and his wife, who have so far taken care of Yi, and 15 reporters would accompany Mr. Yi to Panmunjom.

Ministry Denies Kim Yong-sam To Visit U.S. in Apr

SK1603072893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0712 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 16 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Foreign Ministry denied press reports here Tuesday that President Kim Yong-sam will visit Washington in late April. "Seoul's intention is to have U.S. President Bill Clinton come to South Korea on or around the G-7 meeting in Tokyo in July," Vice Foreign Minister Hong Sun-yong said.

"There are, of course, alternative plans in case the visit cannot be arranged at that time," he said, indicating Kim's visit was one of the alternatives. Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu would raise the matter when he met with U.S. officials during his Washington visit March 25-30, Hong said.

Ministry Plans Monthly Meetings With U.S. Businessmen

SK1303083993 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 13 Mar 93 p 18

[Text] The Ministry of Finance [MOF] has decided to hold a regular monthly meeting with American businessmen here as part of steps to promote foreign direct investment in Korea.

It will also frequently meet with European, Japanese and other foreign businessmen here to hear their concerns and complaints and to inform them of the latest liberalization steps in foreign investment.

Kang Sok-in, director of the investment promotion division of the Finance Ministry, yesterday outlined Korea's recent deregulatory moves in a meeting with American businessmen here at the Westin Chosun Hotel.

The MOF will consult with the other government ministries and associations to hold a series of foreign investment promotion seminars abroad this year. Since 1988, Seoul has suspended the overseas promotion seminars for international businessmen.

MOF's Kang yesterday told American businessmen here that the Korean government will focus on liberalization and deregulation in its basic foreign, economic and trade policies.

He said Seoul is fully aware that foreign investment has made a valuable contribution to the economy development of Korea, adding that the current foreign investment system should be further developed to attract foreign investment.

He added that the Korean government will continue to accelerate and broaden the scale of the opening and

liberalization of the domestic market, which will contribute to enhancing the competitiveness of Korean industries.

The MOF also decided to hold a regular meeting with foreign businessmen here because "they are not fully informed of Seoul's latest liberalization steps."

ROK-U.S. Trade Meeting To Discuss Intellectual Property

SK1303062293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0512 GMT 13 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 13 (YONHAP)—The South Korea-U.S. trade sub-group meeting in Washington on March 16-19 is Seoul's last chance to convince the American Government not to name Korea a Priority Foreign Country [PFC] in intellectual property rights. Seoul will deliver strong complaints against Washington's anti-dumping charges on Korean steel products and moves to levy heavier taxes on foreign companies operating in the United States.

The trade sub-group meets twice a year and touches on a wide range of subjects at the working level. Next week's talks will cover telecommunications, beef, cosmetics, customs, and deferred payment, but Seoul's main interest is in the decision due next month on whether to label South Korea a PFC.

Seven American companies and industrial organizations have filed a complaint against Korea for rampant piracy. Four of them—the International Property Alliance, the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, Nintendo America, and Reebok—have demanded PFC designation for Korea.

"We will explain recent government crackdown measures on pirates and plans to revise our law for heavier punishment of intellectual property violators," Hong Chong-pyo, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's international trade bureau, said. Hong is Seoul's top delegate to the sub-group meeting. Robert Cassidy, assistant U.S. trade representative, is his counterpart.

Cable TV Law Revision To Permit Foreign Investment

SK1603095493 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 15 Mar 93 p 2

[Text] A government official said on 15 March that the government has decided to allow foreigners to invest in supplying foreign programs by revising the integrated cable television law.

This official said that in a bid to avoid being designated as a priority foreign country, the government decided to accept many U.S. demands regarding intellectual property rights. According to this concession, the government will allow foreigners to invest up to 15 percent in supplying foreign programs. The government decided to

send a draft amendment bill on cable television to the National Assembly sometime during the first half of this year.

The government plans to convey this decision to the United States at the 13th ROK-U.S. trade talks in Washington starting 16 March. It will then ask the United States to suspend the attempt led by U.S. businesses to put the ROK on a retaliatory country list.

Because the integrated cable television law excludes large businesses or those with more than 5 percent of an existing broadcasting company's shares from supplying foreign programs, a controversy over competition and selection of fair criteria for participation in the business is likely to take place.

The government decided to raise the ratio of foreign programs to be aired on the cable television network, which the integrated cable television law limits to 30 percent, up to 50 percent exclusive of entertainment programs, in concession to U.S. demands. As a result, it is feared that the cable television network will be reduced to a broadcast medium airing foreign programs indiscriminately. The cable television businesses may enter into a cut-throat competition in order to make contracts with foreign program suppliers.

Because the cable television network has not begun airing its programs yet and the cable television business is in its beginning stage, the government's action will inevitably and greatly shrink domestic small-scale program producers' business.

Samsung Imports Plastic Technology From Russia

*SK1603012593 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
16 Mar 93 p 8*

[Text] Samsung General Chemical Co. imported advanced technology from a Russian research center to make new plastic material, the company said yesterday.

The company introduced the technology for producing methylmethacrylate (MMA), a basic material which can be used to make plastic optical glass, car lamps and construction materials.

Samsung received permission from the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy last week to introduce the MMA-manufacturing technology from the V.A. Kargin Polymer Research Institute in Novgorod, Russia.

Samsung paid the Russian institute \$320,000 for the technology, which it said is very low compared with prices for similar technologies from other advanced countries, a company spokesman said.

He said Samsung and Kargin Institute agreed last December to introduce the high technology.

MMA is a new plastic substance needed for the production of high quality adhesive, paints and polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA).

Korea cannot develop the technology and is relying on MMA imports from industrialized countries.

Samsung plans to start mass production from 1999 after the company further develops the basic technology for commercialization.

The Samsung Group is active in importing high technologies from Russia because the U.S., Japan and EC countries have been reluctant to transfer technologies to Korean companies.

Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology (SAIT), the research and development arm of the Samsung business group, developed a digital-video disc recorder (D-VDR) last month by using Russian green laser technology.

Deputy Prime Minister Supports Security Law Revision

*SK1503130693 Seoul YONHAP in English 1223 GMT
15 Mar 93*

[Text] Seoul, March 15 (YONHAP)—Deputy Prime Minister and National Unification Minister Han Wansang said Monday afternoon that he is willing to examine the issue of replacing the National Security Law with a law on the upkeep of democratic order.

"I think legal provisions that run counter to the basic South-North agreement should be disposed of. In this connection, I am willing to examine the possible replacement of the security law with a law on democratic order," he said. He was testifying at the National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee, which was called into session on the issue of North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty.

Han also said he deems it proper to have the basic South-North agreement endorsed by the National Assembly as a means of fostering a national consensus on unification, though he said it is hard to make the basic agreement subject to ratification by the legislature since the agreement is not a country-to-country treaty.

Also speaking at the assembly committee, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said he sees no reason why the government should oppose direct negotiations between the U.S. and North Korea.

"If such talks were conducive to resolving problems, they could be held preceded by prior consultation and agreement between Seoul and Washington," said the foreign minister, adding that "The judgement of South Korea and the U.S. is that direct Washington-Pyongyang talks won't be helpful at the present stage." He said that during his planned visit to the United States late this month, he plans to deliver to the U.S. a message that "there should be no war on the Korean peninsula."

Minister Han said that on the nuclear issue, high-level officials talks are going on through several channels with China, a country which he said has influence upon North

Korea. The negotiations are being held at the U.N. Headquarters, Beijing and Seoul, he said.

Han observed that Pyongyang's revocation of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty would inevitably lead South Korea to tighten its linkage of South-North economic cooperation with the nuclear issue. "If the nuclear issue reaches a point where the U.N. Security Council decides on economic sanctions against Pyongyang, South Korea, a U.N. member country and potential victim country, should naturally take part in sanctions," he said.

Asked if the government is willing to revoke the South-North denuclearization declaration, Minister Han made it express that the government would retain it. "I think the merits we obtain by retracting the declaration would be smaller than the merits we gain by keeping it," he said.

On the issue of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter's visits to both South and North Korea, Minister Han said Carter, in a message to President Kim Yong-sam, affirmed his wish to visit the two Koreas and the South Korean ambassador to the U.S. extended to him an invitation to visit Seoul. "But, I don't think it would be advisable for him to visit the two Koreas at this time when the Team Spirit military exercise is under way," the foreign minister said.

Government, DLP Plan Mid-April By-elections

SK1503023093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0127 GMT 15 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 15 (YONHAP)—The government and the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] have decided to hold by-elections in the Tongrae-a and Saha districts in Pusan and the Kwangmyong district in Kyonggi Province in April. The DLP will hold meetings with the main opposition Democratic Party as soon as the DP names its senior party officials to set the dates for the elections and discuss ways to ensure they are fair, officials said Monday.

One DLP source said that although the government and the ruling party wanted to hold the by-elections in early April, it would be impossible because of the preparations required by the central election management committee. As a result, they were likely to take place after April 14, the source said, requesting anonymity. The DLP plans to propose that the National Assembly convene the 161st extraordinary session shortly after the by-elections, the source said.

Kim Myong-ho Named New Bank of Korea Governor

SK1303015393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0112 GMT 13 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 13 (YONHAP)—The government accepted Bank of Korea [BOK] Governor Cho Sun's

resignation on Saturday [13 March] morning and immediately named bank superintendent Kim Myong-ho to replace him.

Cho had tendered his resignation because there was a new administration, and it had been accepted, a Finance Ministry spokesman said, adding that Cho would remain a permanent adviser to the central bank. Cho still had three years to go to finish his four-year term as head of the Central Bank, having been inaugurated on March 25 last year. The outgoing governor's stability-orientated philosophy was at odds with the economic revitalization plans of the new government.

Cho had also been criticized by the ruling Democratic Liberal Party for dropping a libel suit against former United People's Party leader Chong Chu-yong for saying that the Central Bank had donated 300 billion won to Kim Yong-sam's presidential election campaign last year.

The 58-year-old new governor joined the central bank after graduating from Seoul National University's economic department. He served as the vice governor in 1988-91 and headed the office of the bank supervision and examination, a substructure of the Bank of Korea.

*** Newspaper Profiles 'Next-Generation Stars'**

932C0077A Seoul CHUGAN MAEGYONG in Korean 27 Jan 93 pp 24-35

[By correspondents Yu Ho-kil, Mun Hyong-nam, Yo Hong-il: "The Turning Point... and Emerging New Leaders—a Survey of Next-Generation Stars in Business, Economics, S&T"]

[Text] The wind of a generational change is blowing hard in all sectors of the society. Business, economics and science-and-technology [S&T] are no exception. And increasingly in evidence are phenomena of elders being heard less and less, giving way to the voices of new generations.

In the economics and S&T sectors, especially, there are signs that the tide of seniority-based authority is on the ebb, with a new, ability-first order taking its place.

What would be the future lineups of leading talents in business, economics and S&T? How are they cultivating their abilities now and preparing for their new era?

To answer these questions, CHUGAN MAEKYONG has conducted a survey of new leaders emerging in each of these sectors.

In the selection, we, for the business sector, limited the survey to vice presidents or above of FKI [Federation of the Korean Industries]-affiliated companies who were born 1 January 1950 or later. For the economics sector, 50 persons were selected from among assistant professors or above at four-year universities who obtained

their doctorate five years ago or earlier. For the S&T sector, the survey focused on specialists recommended from their respective fields.

Business: Few Professional Managers, Mostly Owners' Relatives

In the business sector, second and third-generation entrepreneurs are the mainstream of the new-leader group. This is to be accepted as quite natural, in view of the nature of business circles in which the ranking is determined by the size of wealth.

The reason that professional managers are left out is that as the personnel backlog gets longer, it is increasingly difficult to find ones becoming directors in their thirties or company presidents in their early forties.

In this sector, new leaders are not yet very active. Except for a few already in the top post, they are in the stage of undergoing management training. They are being groomed as successor to the "owner" and, therefore, find themselves realistically restricted in their voices inside and outside the company.

But it is, according to a general observation, a matter of time for them to take over as leaders for all practical purposes. The reason is that once they establish themselves as the next owners, their influence within the respective groups will inevitably increase and that this is bound to produce an impact in the business world in many ways.

Most promising of their future are those who are either in the top posts already or have virtually succeeded to them. They mostly took over their business when they were in their twenties or the thirties as the result of the founder's death. Otherwise, they are the owner's eldest son or the like being groomed for succession.

However, it is possible that the owner's brothers as well as his sons other than the eldest turn out to be as capable as the eldest son, although there would be differences among individuals.

To prove it, analysis shows that *chaebol* [industrial conglomerates], which in the past transferred full power to the owner's eldest son, will move to disperse their holdings to both the eldest and other sons to establish a federation-type management in an attempt to cope with a deconcentration policy that the new government is expected to adopt.

Among those who are presently in the top posts and yet are regarded as new leaders are Kim Sung-yon, 41, chairman of the Han-Wha Group; Chang Chin-ho, 41, chairman of the Jinro Group, and Kim Hyon-chol, 43, chairman of the Sammi Group. As FKI vice president and head of various sports organizations, they already wield a considerable amount of influence in the business world.

The possibility is high that they will rise to the star roles in the new-generation era as the new leaders step up their activities in earnest.

Of the new leaders already in the top post of their business, most prominent is Han-Wha Group Chairman Kim Sung-yon, who was 29 years old when he inherited the group, amid misgivings of people around him. Now they look at him as a man of success, not only for the successful preservation of what he inherited but for the aggressive management of the group as well.

His group entered an era of stability when he was in the mid-thirties, and he has since been actively involved in outside activities, too. As a result, Kim Sung-yon now serves in more than 10 major posts, including vice president of the FKI Efficiency Association, vice chairman of the World Amateur Boxing Association, and honorary consul general of the Greek Republic. Especially, he attracted public attention when the Geneva-based World Economic Forum recently picked him as one of the "200 young next-generation leaders."

Jinro Group Chairman Chang Chin-ho, who became the group's head in 1988, is currently hastening the group's "rebirth," prompting business circles to see him as Jinro's "dreadful second-generation head." Since he became the group's head, Jinro took over as many as five enterprises that had been unrelated to liquor business, its mainstay, and is about to lift itself into an all-around business group.

Chairman Chang Chin-ho, under his plan to expand Jinro into a 30-company group by the year 2010, has launched a "Challenge to the Year 2000" drive. Besides, as chairman of the Marksmanship Association, he helped the Korean team win two gold medals in the Barcelona Olympics. As a result, people see him as a man with the sense of balance, among other things.

Sammi Group Chairman Kim Hyon-chol is presently devoted to normalizing the group's management. After taking over as chairman in 1980, he aggressively pursued the strategy of expansion. Unable to scale the wall of recession, however, he has since last year focused on consolidation, selling affiliated firms.

His activities outside the group will probably remain slow for the time being. But he is expected to show himself as an energetic new leader as soon as he finishes the current normalization task.

Yi Chang-chae, 42, chairman of the rapidly growing Koryo Group, and Kim Tae-hyong, 37, chairman of Hanshin Construction Co.—freed from the grip of control by the bank last year—appear to be gradually expanding their spheres of activity.

Yi Chang-chae took over the group from Yi Kang-hak, presently honorary chairman, in 1987, and has since established the Koryo General Economic Research Institute, Pando Investment & Finance Corp. and Koryo CM

Life Insurance. He thus has expanded the group into one specializing in finances, and three times in size.

Kim Tae-hyong was 27 years old when he took over Hanshin Construction Co. in 1983 following the sudden death of his father, Kim Hyong-chong. It was when the construction business began its decline nationwide, and Hanshin was labeled "bank-controlled" in April 1987. However, as the department store business he launched for diversification picked up, and as construction business recovered, Hanshin began to register an explosive 40%-50% average in nominal annual growth. Its business this year is likely to reach a 1 trillion-won level.

Among the new leaders designated to be the next group heads and already playing an active management role within their groups are Yi Ung-yol, 37, vice chairman of the Kolon Group; Choe Sung-chin, 39, vice chairman of the Woosung Group; Yang Hoe-mun, vice chairman of the Daishin Group; Chae Hyong-sok, 33, president of the Aekyung Industrial Co., and Yi Ui-chol, 39, vice chairman of Ssangbangwool. They are still in the shadow of the present group head and in the process of being groomed as successor. For all practical purposes, however, they are known to be in control as the leader of their group.

Kolon Group Vice Chairman Yi Ung-yol has focused on sound management throughout and is likely to breathe a fresh air into the group's operations. After majoring in business administration at Korea University, American University and George Washington University, he had his management training at the group's New York and Tokyo branches. His ambition being Kolon's conversion to futuristic and high-tech industries, Yi is expected to be in the forefront again when the race reopens for the government's mobile communications business license.

Woosung Group Vice Chairman Choe Sung-chin has virtually secured the owner post for himself. He is the largest stockholder of Woosung Construction, the group's mainstay and holding company. In the realm of management, too, he single-handedly controls all the affiliates, large and small. It is also known that Chairman Choe Chu-ho, 80, his father, places in him greater confidence with each passing day.

Daishin Group Vice Chairman Yang Hoe-mun is the second son of Chairman Yang Chae-pong; nevertheless, he is widely regarded as successor. A Chungang University English literature graduate, he entered the company first as chief of the securities general planning section. While working his way up to be a director, managing director, executive director, and vice president in that order, he had his training in management. As the largest stockholder of Daishin Securities, the group's mainstay firm, he has virtually completed preparations to become the next head of the group. His elder brother, Yang Hoe-chon, is president of Daishin Electric Appliances Co., which is separated from the group.

Aekyung Industrial Co. President Chae Hyong-sok first entered the company as a clerk after finishing a master's

course at Boston University, getting his management training while working in the production and marketing sections. He succeeded to his mother, Chang Yong-sin, presently chairwoman of the company, as president in 1990. Lately, he has been extremely active with a Kuro-dong shopping center project which the group is pushing as part of its transformation program.

Meanwhile, the new leaders who were bypassed in promotion to the head post but stayed on in the group developing brothers-led management in an amicable manner are: Kim Sok-chun, 40, vice chairman of the Ssangyong Group; Kim Chung-kon, 41, vice chairman of Kyungnam Wool Textile Ind. Co.; Kim Hyon-pae, 35, president of the Sammi Group's basic investigation center; Pak Song-pae, 39, vice president of Haitai Distribution; and Kim Mu-ki, 40, vice president of Dongbu Securities Co.

Ssangyong Group Vice Chairman Kim Sok-chun, who is Chairman Kim Sok-won's younger brother, joined the group in 1977 following his graduation from Korea University where he majored in business administration. He had his management training in the basic investigation center and at the Los Angeles and New York branches before assuming control of Ssangyong Construction Co. in 1982. Besides, he is currently managing four companies including Namkwang Engineering & Construction. How the line of duty will take shape between him and Chairman Kim Sok-won in the future is a matter of concern among business circles.

Kim Chung-kon, vice chairman of Kyungnam Wool Textile Ind. Co. is expected to take over some of the affiliated companies in the Hanil Group that are the group's major stockholders, including Kyungnam Wool Textile, Hanil Securities, and Hanhyo Development, and manage them independently.

President Kim Hyon-pae of the Sammi Group, who is Group Chairman Kim Hyon-chol's younger brother, holds considerably large shares in Sammi Steel Co. and Sammi Corporation, both the group's mainstay firms.

Haitai Distribution Vice President Pak Song-pae is Chairman Pak Kon-pae's younger brother. He had been regional director of Haitai Trading Co. USA until 1984 when the group launched its overall coordination center. He came home to be its first director. Since 1990, he has been assisting his elder brother as Haitai Distribution vice president for department store business.

Dongbu Securities Vice President Kim Mu-ki, who is the youngest brother of Dongbu Group Chairman Kim Chun-ki, is a graduate of the Seoul National University [SNU] diplomacy course and is currently taking his management training in securities markets. He is expected to show his administrative ability in the group's financial operations.

Tam Chol-kon, 38, who became vice chairman of the Tong-Yang Group, is a brother-in-law of Group Chairman Hyon Chae-hyon and, as such, building an era

of cooperative management. After majoring in marketing in George Washington University, he entered Tong-Yang Cement Corporation but immediately moved to Tong-Yang Confectionery Corp., which he is managing independently now.

Groups in which the group heads are active on the first line of management are mostly not quite transparent as far as their succession plans are concerned. However, it is more likely that they are headed for divided management by family members than for father-to-the-eldest-son succession. As a result, each involved, it seems, is strengthening his or her position as the days pass by.

Among the entrepreneurs likely to draw attention for their cooperative management as brothers or brothers-in-law are: the two sons of Halla Group Chairman Chong In-yong: Mong-kuk, 41, and Mong-won, 38, vice chairmen of the group; the two sons of Songwoo Group Chairman Chong Sun-yong: Mong-son, 39, vice chairman of Hyondae Cement, and Mong-sok, 35, president of Hyondae General Metals; the two vice chairmen of the Samchully Group, Yi Man-tuk, 37, and Yu Sang-tok, 34, who became the talk of the town for their amicable relationship; the three sons of Kuk-Dong Group Chairman Kim Yong-san: Hong-chung, 42, chairman of the Kuk-Dong Mutual Credit Association, and Tae-chung, 39, vice chairman of Dongsuh Securities Co., and Se-chung, 37, president of Kuk-Dong Construction Co.; the two sons of Pacific Group Chairman So Song-hwan: Yong-pae, 39, chairman of Pacific Industries, and Kyong-pae, 30, executive director of the group's basic investigation center; the three brothers of the Hanbo Group, Chong Chong-kon, 39, president of Hanbo Housing Co., and Won-kon, 31, president of Hanbo Steel Co., and Po-kon, 30, vice chairman of the group.

Succession plans have firmed to considerable degrees between Chong Mong-kuk and Chong Mong-won of the Halla Group. While Group Chairman Chong In-yong's shares are not to be ignored yet, Mong-kuk is expected to take over Halla Heavy Industries, Halla Cement, and Halla Founding Investment, leaving Mando Machinery Corp, Halla Resources Corporation, Namyang Lumber, and Halla Mutual Cooperative to Mong-won's management. They will develop independent management systems under the group umbrella, according to observers.

Outlines of second-generation management are taking shape among the four sons of Songwoo Group Chairman Chong Sun-yong, too. Mong-son, the chairman's eldest son, is to take over Hyondae Cement, the group's mainstay (holdings: 11%), while Mong-sok is to run Hyondae General Metals independently. Their two brothers—Mong-hun, 33, director of the group's general planning center, and Mong-yong—are also expected to show their management abilities in the affiliated firms, Sohan Bendix and Hyundai General Transportation.

Samchully Group Vice Chairmen Yi Man-tuk and Yu Sang-tok are both graduates of the Korea University business administration department. They took a nearly identical course during their management training days in the group. Their fathers, Yu Song-yon, 79, and Yi Chang-kyun, 72, founded their business, beginning with briquette in 1955, and have since been in the same line for four decades. Their wishes are to have the same relationship based on total cooperation between affiliates carried on by their sons, who are also even in their holdings within the group.

In the case of Chong Tae-su of the Hanbo Group, his sons are more or less on a par in performance, except that Po-kon, the last son, is now vice chairman of the group and chairman of the Hockey Association, a matter that could be a factor in the future when succession becomes an issue. Po-kon majored in business administration in Boston University before entering Hanbo Housing Co. in 1988. Among the brothers, only he took management training in the group's basic investigation center.

In the Pacific Group, So Yong-pae is currently serving as representative director and chairman of Pacific General Industries. As the founder, So Song-hwan, continues to exercise exclusive influence and it is as yet difficult to predict whether it will be a case of father-to-the-eldest-son succession. Especially, in Pacific Chemical Co., the group's mainstay, Yong-pae's holding is about the same as that of his younger brother, Kyong-pae, a factor fueling speculation that the two brothers will very likely divide the group between them and shift to independent management, under the same umbrella, though.

Of the brothers of the Kuk-Dong Group, too, the prospects are that they will eventually form a cooperation-based federation based. Kim Hong-chung, the eldest, was once seen as the group's heir apparent when he became president of Kuk-Dong Construction Co., the mainstay. But he had to retreat from first-line management due to health problems. Currently, Se-chung, the founder's third son, is president of Kuk-Dong Construction, while Tae-chung, the second son, is managing Dongsuh Securities Co., the group's money source, getting his training in management at the same time.

In the Hyundai Group, the founder's juniors are drawing attention in regard to their future activities. At present, Chong Mong-yun, 38, the sixth son of Chong Chu-yong, the founder, is independently managing Hyundai Marine & Fire Insurance Co., while Mong-il, 34, the seventh son, is serving as business manager at Korea Kuwait Banking Corporation. Mong-yun in particular has a reputation for being, for his age, highly independent-minded and having a strong driving force. Meanwhile, Mong-il is a banking expert with an MBA degree on international finance from George Washington University.

Chong Mong-hyok, the eldest son of the late Chong Sin-yong (Chong Chu-yong's younger brother), is currently taking management training while serving as vice president of Hyundai Petrochemical Co. It is known that he will assume management of Kukdong Oil Industry the incorporation of which into Hyundai is seen as certain.

Chong Mong-kyu, the eldest son of the Hyundai Group Chairman Chong Se-yong, was promoted to vice president of Hyundai Motor Company, the biggest manufacturer, in January this year. He finished a master's course at Oxford and whether he will independently lead Hyundai Motor in the future or his present post there will prove to be just part of his management training is now a matter of utmost concern among people.

In the Hanjin Group, people are curious to know how far the two sons of Group Chairman Cho Chung-hun—Nam-ho, 42, the second son, and Su-ho, 39, the third son—will be able to establish their independent management positions within the group. A graduate of the Korea University business administration department, Nam-ho once served as Korean Air general manager, then as managing director of Hanil Development Co., and is currently first vice president of Hanil Development. It seems that he will in the future run the group's construction business independently.

Cho Su-ho, a graduate of USC, is serving as executive director of Korean Air and concurrently as representative director of Hanjin Container Lines. His aggressive management is credited with having lifted the latter to what it is now, the industry's top-ranking firm.

Among other new leaders who are expanding their spheres of activity as second-generation managers are: Kwak Chong-cho, 38, president of Korea Electronics Co.; Yu Chong, 42, vice president of Poongsan; Choe Yun-won, 43, vice chairman of Sunkyong Industries; Yi Chae-kwan, 30, president of Saehan Media; Pak Mun-tok, 43, president of Chosun Brewery Co.; Kim Chong-song, 38, president of Rocket Electric Co.; and Yun Yong-chu, 41, president of Crown Confectionery Co.

Korea Electronics Co. President Kwak Chong-cho is a second-generation Korean resident in Japan. A graduate of Musashi University of Technology in Japan, he succeeded to his father as the firm's president in 1987 following the death of the father, Kwak Tae-sok. He has since focused on the company's technological development, building up an electronics group comparable to other leading makers in the country.

Poongsan Vice President Yu Chong, the eldest son of Poongsan Group Chairman Yu Chan-u, began his management training in 1979 following his graduation from Oklahoma University and, after serving as general manager, then as director of Poongsan, the group's mainstay, became its vice president in 1985. Yu Chin, 36, who is Yu Chong's younger brother, has been taking management training since his graduation from the SNU English literature department. He is currently executive director

of the group's basic investigation center. They will promote a new era of by-brothers management, according to speculation inside and outside the group.

As for Sunkyong Industries Vice Chairman Choe Yun-won, a graduate of the Usok University business administration department and holder of a master's degree from Elon College in the United States, it appears that he will soon be exercising influence in the group as its owner.

Chosun Brewery Co. President Pak Mun-tok replaced Pak Mun-hyo, his elder brother, as president in March 1991. He enjoys trust of his father, Chairman Pak Kyong-pok, and whether he will become his successor is drawing the industry's attention.

Saehan Media President Yi Chae-kwan, the eldest son of the late founder Yi Chang-hui, took over as president in May 1991 after his father's death. He was at the time working in a city bank Seoul branch. She [as printed] is a talent who took the business administration course at Korea University and the MBA course at Tufts University in the United States.

Kangnam Group Vice Chairman Hwang Song-ho is the second son of Chairman Hwang Hak-k. He had served as president of Kangnam Construction Chemical, the group's mother company, since 1985 until he was promoted to vice chairman of the group. So, he is in control of the group now. Chairman Hwang Hak-ku has three sons and how the line of duty will be drawn among them is a matter of concern in the industry.

Crown Confectionery Co. President Yun Yong-chu is a graduate of Kyonggi High School and University of Foreign Studies. He became director of Crown's cake division in 1984. He subsequently served as planning director and as managing director, then took over as president in April 1988. Observers say that he, through his positive management, has succeeded in enhancing a brand new image among consumers.

Rocket Electric Co. President Kim Chong-song was formerly a reporter for the Tongyang broadcasting network. He joined Rocket Electric in 1980 as managing director, and became its president in 1989. According to those close to him, he is imbued with the management style of his father, Chairman Kim Nam-chung, focusing on steadiness and soundness.

Besides them, Pyon Tong-chun, president of Sam-Young Electronics Co.; U Sok-hyong, 38, president of Sindo-Ricoh Co.; Yi Ui-pyong, 38, president of Shinyoung, Inc.; and Kim Sung-han, 37, president of Han-Chang Corporation can also be counted among new leaders with a promising future.

Business Leaders Born 1950 or Later (list in no particular order) [Gr. for Group; c., chairman; v.c., vice chairman; p., president, v.p. vice president]

Name	Age	Present Occupation	Alma Mater
Kim Sung-yon	41	Han-Wha Gr. c.	Malone College
Chang Chin-ho	41	Jinro Gr. c.	Korea University
Kim Hyon-chol	43	Sammi Gr. c.	Washington State University
Yi Chang-chae	42	Koryo Gr. c.	Hanyang University/UC
Kim Tae-hyong	37	Hanshin Const. c.	Korea University
Yi Ung-yol	37	Kolon Gr. v.c.	Korea University/George Washington University
Choe Sung-chin	41	Woosung Gr. v.c.	University of Foreign Studies
Yang Hoe-mun	42	Daishin Gr. v.c.	Chungang University
Chong Mong-kuk	41	Halla Gr. v.c.	Korea University/UC
Kim Tae-chung	39	Dongsuh Sec. v.c.	USC
So Yong-pae	39	Pacific Gen. Indus. c.	Korea University
Chae Hyong-sok	33	Aekyung Ind. p.	Songgyungwan/Boston University
Yi Ui-chol	39	Ssangbangwool v.c.	Songgyungwan University
Kim Sok-chun	40	Ssangyong Gr. v.c.	Korea University
Kim Hyon-pae	35	Sammi Gr. basic investigation ch.	Korea University
Tam Chol-kon	38	Tong-Yang Gr. v.c.	George Washington University
Pak Song-pae	39	Haitai Distribut. v.p.	Hanyang University/UC
Ho Il-sop	39	Green Cross v.p.	SNU/Indiana University
Kim Mu-ki	40	Dongbu Sec. v.p.	SNU
Kim Chung-kon	41	Kyungnam Wool v.c.	Chungang University
Chong Mong-yun	38	Hyundai M&F Ins. p.	San Francisco State
Chong Mong-il	34	Kor Kuwait Banking	Yonsei/George Washington University
Chong Mong-kyu	31	Hyundai Motor v.p.	Korea University/Oxford
Chong Mong-hyok	3	Hyundai Petrochem. v.p.	UCLA
Chong Mong-won	38	Halla Gr. v.c.	Korea University
Chong Mong-sok	35	Hyondae Gen. Metals p.	George Washington University
Chong Mong-son	39	Hyondae Cement v.c.	Hartford College
Choe Yun-won	43	Sunkyoung Ind. v.c.	Elon College
Kim Ho-yon	38	Binggrae Co. c.	Sogang University
Pak Mun-tok	43	Choson Brewery p.	Korea University
Pak Chae-chun	41	Nambug Fisheries p.	Korea University
Yi Man-tuk	37	Samchully Gr. v.c.	Korea University
Yu Sang-tok	34	Samchully Gr. v.c.	Korea University
Cho Nam-ho	42	Hanil Develop. v.p.	Korea University
Cho Su-ho	39	Hanjin Container Lns v.p.	USC
Kim Hong-chung	42	Kuk-Dong Mutual Credit c.	Korea University
Chong Chong-kon	39	Hanbo Housing p.	Myongji University
Chong Won-kon	31	Hanbo Steel p.	Korea University
Chong Po-kon	30	Hanbo Gr. v.c.	Tongguk University/Boston University
Yu Chong	43	Poongsan v.p.	Oklahoma University
Yang Chu-hwan	41	Sohung Capsule p.	Yonsei University

Business Leaders Born 1950 or Later (list in no particular order) [Gr. for Group; c., chairman; v.c., vice chairman; p., president, v.p. vice president] (Continued)

Name	Age	Present Occupation	Alma Mater
Kim Se-chung	37	Kuk-Dong Construction p.	Tanguk University
Kwak Chong-cho	38	Korea Electronics p.	Musashi Technical University
Yi Chae-kwan	30	Seehan Media p.	Tufts University
Kim Sung-han	37	Han-Chang Corp. p.	Songgyungwan University
Kim Chong-song	38	Rocket Electric p.	Songgyungwan
Pyon Tong-chun	40	Sam-Young Electronics p.	Hanyang University
U Sok-hyong	38	Sindo-Ricoh p.	Hanyang University
Yi Ui-pyong	38	Shinyoung, Inc. p.	Korea University
Yun Yong-chu	41	Crown Confec. p.	Kor Foreign Studies University
Yi Sok-chun	39	Sam-Young Chemical p.	Songgyungwan University
Hwang Song-ho	42	Const. Chemical p.	New York State University

Economics: SNU forms Mainstream, 80% Foreign-Degree Holders

Young professors in their thirties are emerging new leaders in the economics realm.

A CHUGAN MAEGYONG survey puts at 150 the number of professors in their thirties working in the economics-related departments nationwide. Of them, we have selected 50 as new leaders for this report. The criteria used in the selection were: experience of five years or longer in research and lecturing since the obtaining of their doctorate, activities in the respective academic society and writings as professors, and opinions of middle-class professors.

"New-leader economists" are the focus of attention in academic and business circles for their youthful ambition and scholarly passion, despite managerial weakness coming from a relatively short career.

A comprehensive look at the 50 professors thus selected indicates that SNU graduates who obtained their doctorate in the United States and who are in their late thirties form the mainstream.

SNU holds an overwhelming majority with 18, followed by Yonsei University's nine.

Then come Songgyungwan University, five; Korea University, four; Yongnam University, four; Kyonghui University, three; Sogang University, two; and Hanyang, Pusan, and Kyemyong universities one each.

Graduates of foreign universities are two, one from UCLA and the other from Cologne University in Germany. The 50 economists are mostly graduates of universities in the Seoul area; among provincial universities, only Yongnam made it. This shows that graduates of famous universities in Seoul, rather than those of provincial universities, are leading in the race.

Next, a glance at institutes from which they obtained their doctorates points to the nation's heavy reliance on the

United States in the scientific realms. Of the 50, only 10, or 20%, received their degrees from universities in the country and the rest 40, or 80%, from foreign institutes.

Two each obtained their degrees from Yonsei, Korea, and Yongnam Universities respectively, and one each from SNU, the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), Kyonghui University, and Chungnam University. As regards the foreign doctorates, 38 of the aforementioned 40 received theirs from U.S. universities, one from a British, and another from a German institute. This has prompted criticism that the nation's economics-related studies are overly dependent on the United States, that the obtaining of a doctorate in the country is too difficult.

The selected new leaders are mostly in the latter half of their thirties, ranging from one 33-year-old to 18, 39-year-olds. Selected as the youngest new-leader economist is Professor M. Chae-sin, 33, of the Tanguk University foreign trade department. A 1982 graduate of SNU, he obtained his master's degree and doctorate from Brown University in the United States, in 1984 and 1987 respectively. After that, he worked in the Korea Economic Research Institute as a staff researcher for a year, then assumed, in September 1988, professorship at Tanguk University. Despite his relatively young age, he is already known for his works in international economics, including on exchange rates and balance of payment, according to those who know him.

SNU international economics professor Kim Tae-song, Sejong University business administration professor Kim Hong-pom, and SNU economics professor Hong Ki-hyon are all of the same age, 34. Sogang University economics professor Kim Kyong-hwan, Mogwon University economic professor Pak Kyong, Kyongsang University economics professor Pak Chong-su, and Pusan University economics professor Yun Yong-tuk, all 35, are also regarded as young stars with a promising future.

The new leaders vary in the length of their research and teaching careers, ranging from five years to 12 years. Of

those in the thirties, veteran professor Hwang Ui-so of Seoul Municipal University is unrivaled in this category at 11 years. A graduate of the Cologne University school of economics in Germany, he took his master's degree and doctorate at the graduate school of the same university, the latter in 1981. His specialty being tax theory, he would, availing himself of school vacations, often go to the United States to research the U.S. tax system.

Next to him in the length of teaching career is Choe Pyong-son, 37, a promising applied statistics professor at Yonsei University. A graduate of SNU, Professor Choe acquired his master's degree and doctorate from Stanford University, the latter in 1983. He enjoys the reputation of having contributed to developing applied statistics in our country by adopting American econometrics into statistics the past nine years.

Professor Choe Pyong-son is followed by Tanguk University economics professor Kang Myong-hon, 38; Songgyungwan University economics professor Kim Kyong-su, 39; and Sukmyong Women's University foreign trade professor Sin Se-ton, 39, who all have 8 years of teaching to their credit.

Currently, 30, or 60%, of the 50 new-leader economists are working in schools in Seoul, and the rest 20, or 40%, in provinces. The distribution is not as lopsided as that of universities they graduated from. A possible explanation could be that while most of them would like to work in the Seoul area, openings are limited and consequently some had to go to branch schools or universities in provinces.

In this category, Yonsei and Korea universities top the list with three new-leader professors each. Those at Yonsei are So Sung-hwan, 36; Cho H-hyon, 37; and Choe Pyong-son, 37, while Korea University have Kim Kyun, 38; Kim Ki-hwa, 37; and Chon Pyong-hon, 37. New leaders would say that schools with more young professors would prove to be advanced, prestige schools.

Alma Maters of the 50 New-Leader Economists

Seoul University	18 persons
Yonsei University	9 persons
Songgyungwan University	5 persons
Korea University	4 persons
Yongnam University	4 persons
Kanghui University	3 persons
Sogang University	2 persons
Others	3 persons
Foreign Universities	2 persons

Age Distribution of the 50 New-Leader Economists

33	1 person
34	3 persons
35	4 persons
36	6 persons
37	8 persons
38	10 persons
39	18 persons

50 New Leaders in Economics Selected by CHUGAN MAEGYONG (in Korean alphabetical order; br. is for branch school)

Name	Age	Alma Mater; Year of Doctorate Received	Current Assignment
Kang Kyong-kyu	39	Korea University, SNU; Korea University 87	Myongji University
Kang Myong-hon	38	SNU; New York State University 84	Tanguk University
Ku Chong-mo	39	Songgyungwan University; Missouri University 86	Kangwon University
Kwon Chun-sik	39	Yongnam University; same University 87	Kwandong University

50 New Leaders in Economics Selected by CHUGAN MAEGYONG (in Korean alphabetical order; br. is for branch school) (Continued)

Name	Age	Alma Mater; Year of Doctorate Received	Current Assignment
Kim Kyong-su	39	SNU; Pennsylvania University 84	Songgyungwan University
Kim Kyong-hwan	35	Sogang University; Princeton University 87	Sogang University
Kim Kyun	38	Korea University; Duke University 86	Korea University
Kim Ki-hwa	37	Korea University; same University 85	Korea University (br.)
Kim Tong-hwa	36	Kyonghui University; Utah State University	Kyonghui University
Kim Song-tae	38	Songgyungwan University; UCSD 87	Chongju University
Kim Yong-chin	36	SNU; Chicago University 87	Tongdok Women's University
Kim In-kol	37	SNU; Brown University 87	Kukmin University
Kim Tae-song	34	SNU; Minnesota University 87	SNU
Kim Ho-on	39	Kyemyong, Chungaig University; Yonsei 86	Kyemyong University
Kim Hong-pom	34	Yonsei University; KAIST 87	Sejong University
Na Song-nin	39	SNU; Oxford 86	Hallim University
Nam Song-il	38	Sogang University; Rochester University 87	Sogang University
Yu Chi-su	37	SNU; Florida University 87	Yongnam University
Ma Chae-sin	33	SNU; Brown University	Tanguk University
Pak Kyong	35	SNU; Chungnam University 87	Mogwon University
Pak Pyong-chin	39	Yongnam University; same University 87	Yongnam University
Pak Wan-kyu	39	Yonsei; Wisconsin University 85	Chungang University (br)
Pak Chong-su	35	Kyonghui University; same University 86	Kyongsang University
Pae Hyong	36	Songgyungwan University; Wisconsin University 85	Tongguk University
Pack Sung-kwan	39	Korea University; UC Berkeley 86	Hongik University
So Sung-hwan	36	Yonsei University; Princeton University 85	Yonsei University
So Chong-ik	39	Yonsei University; same University	Hoso University
Son Il-tae	38	Yonsei University; North Western University 85	Kyonghui University
Song Hyon-ho	38	SNU; same University 86	Chungnam University
Sin Se-ton	39	UCLA; same University 84	Sukmyong Women's University
Sim Won-pil	36	Yongnam University; Alabama University 87	Andong University
An Chae-uk	37	Kyonghui University; Ohio State University 87	Kyonghui University
Yun Yong-tuk	35	Pusan University; Houston University 87	Pusan University
Yun Yong-man	37	Songgyungwan; Washington University 87	Inchon University
Yun Chong-yol	39	SNU; Princeton University 86	Ewha Women's University
Yi Pong-ho	38	SNU; Cincinnati University 85	Seoul Women's University

50 New Leaders in Economics Selected by CHUGAN MAEGYONG (in Korean alphabetical order; br. is for branch school) (Continued)

Name	Age	Alma Mater; Year of Doctorate Received	Current Assignment
Yi Si-yong	38	Yongnam University; same University 85	Tongguk University (br)
Yi Yong-kwang	39	Songgyungwan; Southern Methodist 87	Kyonggi University
Yi Chong-uk	39	Yonsei University; Illinois University 87	Seoul Women's University
Yi Chong-sok	39	Yonsei University; Ohio State University 86	Chungbuk University
Yim Tok-ho	38	Hanyang University; Rice University 86	Hanyang University
Chon Pyong-hon	37	SNU; Pennsylvania University 87	Korea University
Cho Tong-kon	39	SNU; Cincinnati University 85	Myongji University
Cho Ha-hyon	37	Yonsei University; Chicago University 87	Yonsei University
Choe Pyong-son	37	SNU; Stanford University 83	Yonsei University
Ham Si-chang	39	SNU; Wisconsin University 86	Sangmyong Women's University
Ho Chae-won	39	Yonsei University; Pennsylvania University 86	Chungang University (br)
Hong Ki-hyon	34	SNU; Harvard University 87	SNU
Hong Song-pyo	36	SNU; New York State University 87	Chungnam University
Hwang Ui-so	38	Cologne University, Germany; same University 81	Seoul Municipal University

S&T: High-Tech Group Now in the Lead

Whom do we have as new leaders who will soon be leading the S&T in this country? It could be a question full of implications, considering that the 2000's will be an S&T-dominated era.

Indeed, it is through these new leaders whose academic achievements are solid and potentially promising that the nation's S&T can look forward to the future with hopes. Here is a look at the stars picked by specialists currently working in major universities and research institutes.

First, among those in physics are Chang Ki-chu, 40; Im Chi-sun, 42; O Se-chong, 40; and Ko In-kyu, 40. Professor Chang Ki-chu, specializing in solid state theoretical physics, did theoretical research in the semiconductor field for Xerox Corp. in the United States. Currently, he is an associate professor at the KAIST [Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology] physics department. O Se-chong, who is also a member of the 21st Century Committee, is devoted to research on physical phenomena of solid state surface. In the solid state physics experiment field, too, he is viewed as a hope. Im Chi-sun, associate professor of the SNU physics department, specializes in semiconductor, superconductor, and neurocircuit network, while KAIST Professor Ko In-kyu's specialty is theoretical physics and computer physics.

Among the new leaders in materials engineering are Professor Yi Chong-chung, 42; Professor Yu Han-il, 42, of SNU; Professor Kang Sok-chun, 43; and Professor No Kwang-su, 38, of the KAIST. There also are such figures as Choe Kyong-man, 41; Choe Tu-chin, 40; and Kim Nak-chun, 40. SNU's Yu Han-il is said to be the top runner in the materials engineering field in our country. Meanwhile, Choe Tu-chin, senior researcher at the inorganic materials laboratory of the KIST [Korea Institute of Science and Technology], is drawing attention for his mid and long-term research themes focusing on ferro-electrics thin film, which is an essential technology in the semiconductor high integration process, and on microsensor. Professor No Kwang-su's research deals with electronics and optical materials. He plans to focus on photoelectromagnetics.

In the field of aerospace engineering, whether we can join the ranks of industrialized nations is a matter of vital concern. In this field, Professor Pak Sung-o, 42, of the KAIST is a promising researcher with outstanding academic achievements in aerodynamics and fluid dynamics. Choe Tong-hwan, 42, a director in the Korea Research Institute of Aeronautics and Space [KRIAS], is regarded as a driving force of government-sponsored research programs relating to aircraft development. Currently, he is, among other things, on the Trade and Industry Ministry's management committee for aerospace industry development policy. Professor Tak Min-che, 39, of the KAIST is one of the few scientists in the country specializing in flight dynamics and control.

Promising figures in nuclear energy engineering include Cho Nam-chin, Chang Sun-hung, and No Hui-chon, all 39 and KAIST professors; Professor Pak Kun-chol, 41, of SNU, and Pak Chang-kyu, 42, laboratory head at the Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute [KAERI].

Professor Chang Sun-hung is viewed as a rising force who will lead the nation's nuclear energy engineering. He was the winner of the first Science Prize of the Nuclear Science Council of Korea. KAIST's Pak Chang-kyu is reportedly in charge of safety evaluation programs on nuclear power stations either in operations or under construction in the country.

In the field of telecommunication engineering, Professor Yi Pyong-ki, 42, of SNU is viewed as the most promising scientist. He made major contributions to the development of wide-area ISDN [integrated services digital network]. Professor Kim Tae-yong, 41, of Chungnam University, regarded as a rising star in the computer communications field, is currently devoted to high-speed multimedia protocol designing. Other professors being watched with hopes include Yi Pil-chung, 42, of Pohang Institute of Technology [PIT]; Yi Hwang-su, 41, of the KAIST; Choe Yang-hui, 38, of SNU; and Choe Hyong-chin, 41, of Songgyungwan University. Also, there is Yi Sang-hun, 38, a director of the Electronic Communications Research and Development Group [ECRDG] of the Korea Communications Corp.

Among the researchers being watched with great interests in polymer engineering, a popular field of materials revolution, are these professors: Cho Won-ho, 43, of SNU; Pak Chan-on, 41, of PIT; and Pak Chong-ki, 42, of the KAIST. Professor Cho Won-ho's specialty mainly covers high polymer brands, polymeric composite materials, and high polymer with separation function. Meanwhile, Choe Kil-yong, 41, researcher of the Korea Research Institute of Chemical Technology [KRICT] and active in the industrial sector, is also a focus of attention in this field.

In computer engineering, KAIST professors Mun Song-chon, 41, and Hwang Kyu-yong, 42; Professor Chon Chu-sik, 41, of SNU; and Pak Sung-kyu, a director of the Korea Research Institute of Telecommunication Technology [KRITT] are among the promising researchers.

In mathematics, Professor Choe Chae-min, 40, of PIT is the top runner among the up-and-coming scholars. Professor Kye Sung-hyok, 35, of SNU, still in the first half of his thirties, is regarded as a leader of the next-generation mathematicians. Professor Kim Hong-chong, 38, also of SNU is another promising scholar in this field. During

his doctor's course at UC Berkeley, Mr. Kobayashi, a Japanese professor, heaped praise on him as the best student he had ever taught. Professor Ko Ki-hyong, 39, of the KIST and Professor Kim Chang-ho, 39, of SNU are also considered hopes among mathematicians.

In chemistry, Professor To Yong-kyu, 43, of the KAIST, and Yu Song-un, 43, a director of the KRICT, are considered rising stars. To Yong-kyu specializes in organometallic composition and structure, and Yu Song-un is engaged in research on new pharmaceutical, especially those for heart and circulatory organ diseases.

In astronomy, Professor Yi Hyong-mok, 37, of Pusan University is expected to lead our astronomers in the future. He took his doctorate with research on "dynamic evolution of globular clusters of stars" under Professor (Ostriker) of Princeton University, a world-famous astronomer. Leading in this field, which could alter space theories, are Professor Kim Kap-song, 39, of Kyonghui University; Professor Kim Kwang-tae, 40, of Chungnam University; Professor Choe Sung-on of SNU; and Min Yong-chol, 38, and Cho Se-yong, 41, both of the Korea Research Institute of Astronomy and Space [KRIAS]. They are expected to represent the nation's astronomy in the future.

In the field of molecular biology, Professor Nam Hong-kil, 36, a young genetic engineer at PIT, is attracting attention for his research being done most vigorously in one of the highest-level laboratories in the country. Professor Yu Min-chun, 42, of the KAIST is a pioneer in genetic engineering research in our country who took his doctorate 10 years ago with his "study of the application period on limitation enzyme." Hong Chu-pong, 41, researcher of the KAIST, is another promising genetic engineering scientist studying the application of genetic engineering to useful plants such as tobacco and ginseng. He is well known to mass media. Other future leaders in this field include Chong Chin-ha, 42; Choe Yang-chu, 40, both SNU professors, and KAIST professors Kang Chang-won, 42, and Choe Chun-ho, 40.

In environmental biology, Professor Kim Un-sik, 39, of Kukmin University, a specialist in forest ecology, is a scientist whose future research is watched with great interests, in view of the present land conditions in our country. Kim Pom-chol, 39, of Kangwon University is a representative scientist studying lake biosystem, while Professor Kim Yong-hwan, 41, of Chungbuk University is another young researcher in seaweed ecology. Also among the future leaders in this field are Professor Cho To-sun, 38, of Songsim Women's University; Professor An Tae-sok, 40, of Kangwon University; and Professor Kim Won, 38, of SNU.

S&T New Leaders: Physics

Name	Age	Occupation
Chang Ki-chu	40	KAIST physics assistant professor
Im Chi-sun	42	SNU physics associate professor
O Se-chong	40	
Ko In-kyu	40	KAIST physics professor

Material Engineering

Name	Age	Occupation
Yi Chong-chung	42	SNU metal engineering assistant professor
Yu Han-il	42	SNU inorganic material engineering associate professor
Kang Sok-chung	43	KAIST professor
No Kwang-su	38	KAIST material engineering associate professor
Choe Kyong-man	41	PIT material metal engineering assistant professor
Choe Tu-chin	40	KAIST inorganic material lab. sr researcher
Kim Nak-chun	40	PIT material metal engineering associate professor

Aerospace Engineering

Name	Age	Occupation
Pak Sung-o	42	KAIST aerospace professor
Choe Tong-hwan	42	KRIAS aircraft development director
Tak Min-che	39	KAIST professor

Atomic Energy Engineering

Name	Age	Occupation
Chang Sun-hung	39	KAIST professor
No Hui-chon	39	KAIST nuclear engineering associate professor
Pak Kun-chol	41	SNU nuclear engineering associate professor
Pak Chang-kyu	42	KAERI reactor safety evaluation director

Telecommunication Engineering

Name	Age	Occupation
Yi Pyong-ki	42	SNU electronics engineering associate professor
Kim Tae-yong	41	Chungnam University electronics engineering associate professor
Yi Pil-chung	42	PIT electronics & electric engineering professor
Yi Hwang-su	41	KAIST electric/electronic engineering associate professor
Choe Yang-hui	38	SNU computer engineering assistant professor
Choe Hyong-chin	41	Songgyungwan University information engineering associate professor
Yi Sang-hun	38	ECRDG basic technology research director

Polymer Engineering

Name	Age	Occupation
Cho Won-ho	43	SNU fiber engineering professor
Pak Chan-on	41	PIT aeronautics associate professor
Pak Chong-ki	42	KAIST aeronautics assistant professor
Choe Kil-yong	41	KRICT head researcher

Computer Engineering

Name	Age	Occupation
Mun Song-chon	41	KAIST assistant professor
Hwang Kyu-yong	42	KAIST computer engineering associate professor
Chon Chu-sik	41	SNU computer engineering associate professor
Pak Sung-kyu	43	KRITT system research director

Mathematics

Name	Age	Occupation
Choe Chae-min	40	PIT assistant professor
Kye Sung-hyok	35	SNU mathematics department
Kim Hong-chong	38	SNU mathematics department
Ko Ki-hyong	39	KIST
Kim Chang-ho	39	SNU

Chemistry

Name	Age	Occupation
To Yong-kyu	43	KAIST professor
Yu Song-un	43	KRICT #2 organic material department director

Astronomy

Name	Age	Occupation
Yi Hyong-muk	37	Pusan University earth science assistant professor
Kim Kap-song	39	Kyonghui University space science assistant professor
Kim Kwang-tae	40	Chungnam University astronomy/space assistant professor
Choe Sung-on	39	SNU earth science education associate professor
Min Yong-chol	38	KRIAS senior researcher
Cho Se-hyong	41	KRIAS Taedok Rad. Astron. Observatory head

Molecular Biology

Name	Age	Occupation
Nam Hong-kil	36	PIT bioengineering assistant professor
Yu Min-chun	42	KAIST bioengineering professor
Hong Chu-pong	41	KAIST genetics institute head researcher
Chong Chin-ha	42	SNU molecular biology associate professor
Choe Yang-chu		SNU agricultural school agrochemistry associate professor
Kang Chang-won	42	KAIST bioengineering professor
Choe Chun-ho	40	KAIST associate professor

Environmental Biology

Name	Age	Occupation
Kim Un-sik	39	Kukmin University forestry resources assistant professor
Kim Pom-chol	39	Kangwon University environmentology associate professor
Kim Yong-hwan	41	Chungbuk University biology associate professor
Cho To-sun	38	Songsim Women's University biology assistant professor
An Tae-sok	40	Kangwon University environmentology associate professor
Kwon Yong-chong	40	Kyongbuk University agrobiolology associate professor
Kim Won	38	SNU molecular biology assistant professor

Burma**Elected Representatives Continue Panel Discussion**

BK1603011693 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 15 Mar 93

[Text] The panel discussions of elected representatives were held at 1000 today in Meeting Hall No. 4 in the Kyaikkasan Grounds. The elected representatives discussed the names and arrangement of constitution chapter headings contained in the panel chairman's speech delivered on 3 March at the plenary session of the National Convention.

U Maung Gyi of the Union Pa-o National Organization chaired the meeting and U Myo Nyunt acted as secretary. Two papers were presented. The delegates discussed the names and arrangement of constitution chapter headings contained in the panel chairman's speech of 3 March delivered at the plenary session. The report compiled by National League for Democracy [NLD] delegates and independent representatives—U Hla Maung, Kya-in Seikkyi constituency, Karen State and U Tun Hlaing, Bahan constituency, Yangon [Rangoon] Division—were presented by U Tun Yi, representative from Sandoway, Rakhine State.

Another report was compiled by delegates from the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy, the National Unity Party, the Union Pa-o National Organization, the Shan State Kokang Democratic Party, and the Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization and independent delegates—Dr. Hmu Tang, Thangtlang constituency, Chin State; U Khin Maung Cho, Dimawhso, Kayah State; U Htaung Kho Htan, Tamu constituency, Sagaing Division; U Tun Kyaw, Namhsan constituency, Shan State; and U Aung Thein, Ywangan constituency, Shan State. The report was presented by U Aung Thein, independent from Ywangan, Shan State.

The meeting ended at 1115 after the delegates agreed to present the two reports to the plenary session of the National Convention.

Indian Delegation, Minister of Industry-1 Talk

BK1303072693 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 Mar 93

[Text] The visiting Indian delegation led by Joint Secretary of the Indian Ministry of Commerce Mr. Ashoke Jha, accompanied by Indian Ambassador Mr. G. Parthasarathy, called on Lieutenant General Sein Aung, minister of industry-1, at his guest room at the Ministry of Industry-1 at 0930 this morning.

During the meeting they held a frank discussion on matters concerning economic and industrial activities between the two countries. The Indian delegation led by Mr. Ashoke Jha later held a discussion with responsible personnel from industrial enterprises under the Ministry

of Industry-1 at the meeting hall of the Industrial Planning Department. They held a detailed discussion on matters concerning establishing joint ventures and mutual trading in industrial products.

Lao Delegation Departs After Border Talks

BK1303154093 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 13 Mar 93

[Text] A Lao delegation led by Mr. Ouan Phommachak, acting director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which attended the sixth technical meeting of the Myanmar [Burma]-Lao Joint Boundary Commission [MLJBC] held in Yangon [Rangoon], left Yangon by air this afternoon.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by members of the MLJBC from the Myanmar side; Mr. Kideng Thammavong, ambassador of Laos to Myanmar, and embassy staff; and responsible personnel from Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Survey Department.

During its stay in Yangon, the Lao delegation led by Mr. Ouan Phommachak and the Myanmar delegation led by U Ba Shwe, acting director of the Boundary Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, held discussions concerning the joint survey of the boundary along the Mekong River.

It has been learned that the leaders of the two delegations signed a memorandum of understanding on 13 March.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore**Malaysia****'Grave Concern' Over UNTAC Chief's Remarks**

BK1503152193 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 12 Mar 93 p 5

[Text] Kepala Batas, Thurs.—Malaysia has expressed grave concern over the remarks by the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) that the coming election in Cambodia may have to be cancelled. Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said UNTAC should not give up easily and must refrain from making a hasty decision.

Abdullah was commenting on the statement by UNTAC head Yasushi Akashi that the election, scheduled from May 23 to 27, might have to be cancelled because the conditions were "nowhere near ripe for a free and fair election."

Addressing Cambodian faction leaders in Phnom Penh two days ago, Akashi said the basic minimum conditions for the election were not yet in place and that, in his view, the situation was still not satisfactory.

Abdullah said he hoped Akashi would not accept the current situation as unchangeable. "UNTAC must work doubly hard to ensure peace and put a stop to the conflict

among factions that will participate in the election," he told reporters after handing over aid to 319 poor people at Sekolah Menengah [secondary school] Agama Daeratul Maarif Wataniah here today.

He said the U.S.\$2 billion UNTAC budget was indeed a UN investment for peace in Cambodia and that UNTAC must never give up easily in managing the situation.

"We sympathize with Akashi who faces a complicated and challenging task. We also give UNTAC the full support in its undertakings," he added. Abdullah stressed that the UNTAC head must be firm in his dealings with the conflicting factions.

Deputy Premier Views Thai Border Dispute

BK1303042593 Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 6 Mar 93 p 2

[Excerpt] Serkam, Friday—Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba wants the General Border Committee [GBC] to rectify errors on the Thai-Malaysian border and settle intrusions by Thai customs officers into Malaysian territory.

He said the government wanted to maintain good relations with all neighboring countries, especially Thailand as an immediate neighbor.

"Errors on a border marker stone are something normal. There will be an agreement although it will take time. Let's take some time," he said.

He was speaking to reporters after performing Friday prayers along with residents of Kampung Serkam Darat at a mosque here today. During the function, he approved an allocation of 20,000 Malaysian ringgit for the expansion of the mosque.

On the statement of Southern Thai Regional Governor [title as published] Nippon Bunyaphattharo that the presence of Malaysian security forces near the border was challenging that country, Ghafar said:

"In fact, each side (the two countries) can speak that way, but we have the GBC. Let the matter be settled through negotiations at this committee," he said.

According to Ghafar, border disputes normally occur between any countries in the world and they cannot be easily settled.

However, he said that good relations between the Malaysian and Thai governments should be maintained. [passage omitted]

Singapore

President, Premier Congratulate Suharto

BK1303031093 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 12 Mar 93 p 1

[Text] Singapore has congratulated President Suharto on his reelection to Indonesia's highest post, describing it as a reaffirmation of the Indonesians' faith and trust in him.

"The people of Indonesia have renewed their trust and faith in Your Excellency's leadership in building a stable and prosperous Indonesia," said President Wee Kim Wee in his congratulatory message.

He expressed confidence that under President Suharto's guidance, Indonesia would continue to play a leading role in regional cooperation and development in ASEAN and the Asia-Pacific region.

In a separate message, Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong said that under President Suharto's leadership over the past 25 years, Indonesia had progressed and prospered and contributed greatly to the peace and stability in the region.

The Indonesians, he said, wanted the peace and stability they had enjoyed under President Suharto's leadership to continue into the 21st century.

"Under your wise guidance, Indonesia will soon become a robust NIE [newly industrialized economy] and later a dynamic, developed country," he predicted.

He said the Singapore Government and people appreciated the strong bilateral relations between the two countries.

"Under your continued leadership, our ties of close cooperation will be consolidated," he said.

"This will not only benefit our two countries but also strengthen the solidarity of ASEAN."

Paper Welcomes Suharto's Reelection

BK1603090193 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Mar 93 p 42

[Editorial: "Suharto and Stability"]

[Text] Indonesia's stability and its external outlook have an important bearing on regional peace and prosperity. The past 25 years under the New Order of President Suharto had been an epochal period of stability, helped along by sustained economic growth and firm long-term thinking. Per capita income rose almost nine-fold during this period. Now with foreign investment coming in, following deregulation, the country is shaping to become an economic tiger. As a result of its changed orientation under the New Order, Indonesia has served well as an anchor-sheet of stability in Southeast Asia, being the region's largest state. The New Order era contrasts sharply with the preceding period, which doubtless will continue to serve as a reminder of the importance of stability both for Indonesia's and the region's future.

Happily, the future looks good notwithstanding the new challenges. Mr Suharto's unanimous reelection as president for a sixth term will help to ensure that political succession takes place smoothly and the New Order's longevity is assured. The election of General Try Sutrisno, after his nomination by all the political factions, is another good augury. Indonesia will need to generate a new crop of leaders that can successfully take over the running of affairs as the pre-independence leadership begins to fade out. This is critical for the country's future stability. Now as vice president, Gen. Try, himself a younger generation leader, is in an important position to pursue this priority task and build a durable equation in the process.

Mr. Suharto as president and Gen. Try as vice president are not only the best possible combination and but also an impressive one. [sentence as published] This will ensure continuity while providing for stable change as the country braces itself for new challenges on the road to becoming a newly industrialising economy and a more mature polity over the next decade. Gen. Try will, no doubt, benefit from Mr. Suharto's long experience as the helmsman. He served well as Mr. Suharto's adjutant for four years in the 1970s. This should make for a sound start. Concerns about Mr. Suharto's health seem misplaced. All the faction leaders who met him recently attested to his fitness for another five-year term of office. In any case, Gen. Try's election would help ensure that no political vacuum is created during the transition period. He is expected to be an active rather than a ceremonial vice president. The five-year development plan, adopted recently by the People's Consultative Assembly, will also work towards ensuring stability as it provides an agreed framework for tackling national development issues.

A major challenge will be the problem of poverty and the danger that the poor may not benefit enough from the country's prosperity. At least 27 million Indonesians live below the poverty line while two million enter the job market every year. Clearly, continued economic growth will be critical. Fortunately, the leadership is alive to this problem which many analysts see as potentially more serious than religious or ethnic tensions. An average 6 percent growth is projected for the long haul. The trend of increasing foreign investments, which exceeded U.S. \$10 billion last year, will be a booster. Yet, the real test will be how this issue is managed in all its dimensions in the coming years. Regeneration of leadership would have to be matched by a renewal of social cohesion as the country moves into a more complex environment. For a far-flung country comprising more than 13,000 islands of which 6,000 are inhabited, such a task will demand high-calibre leadership as well as well-balanced policies and an efficient administration. But the basis has been laid by 25 years of stability and the consensus that the New Order enjoys. The prospects of long-term stability for Indonesia look good. The region will likely continue to reap its benefits.

Cambodia

Government Seeks War Crimes Trials of Khmer Rouge

BK1603141493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0856 GMT
16 Mar 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, March 16 (AFP)—The Phnom Penh government called Tuesday for an international war crimes tribunal to judge Khmer Rouge guerrillas guilty of carrying out an ethnic cleansing campaign against Vietnamese settlers.

Calling the recent massacres of ethnic Vietnamese fishermen in Cambodia "crimes against humanity," senior government advisor and deputy minister Khieu Kanharit said the United Nations should put the culprits on trial "for systematic killing on racial grounds."

At least 33 Vietnamese including eight children were killed on the Tonle Sap Lake in northwest Cambodia last week when Khmer Rouge guerrillas sprayed houseboats with semi-automatic weapons fire.

Khieu Kanharit said the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) should go into Khmer Rouge zones and apprehend the suspects.

But UNTAC spokesman Eric Falt said the United Nations had not decided on what action to take.

So far, at least 78 Vietnamese civilians have been murdered in a series of massacres under U.N. peacekeeping forces, all of them blamed on the Khmer Rouge.

The killings prompted Prince Norodom Sihanouk to call for all Vietnamese to leave the country because neither the United Nations nor the government can guarantee their safety against racial hatred in Cambodia.

However, the government spokesman said it was not a good solution.

"This solution even encourages more killing," Khieu Kanharit said.

He said the government could assure security for Vietnamese residents only in the case of military attack.

But if political parties try to hold anti-Vietnamese rallies, the U.N. peacekeepers would have to be responsible for their security because the government cannot risk a confrontation with its own people, he said.

He also said the government had decided to temporarily close all massage parlors while their contracts to operate were reviewed.

Many of them were no more than government-sanctioned brothels, and their licenses were granted by the government's renegade department of tourism without the permission from the municipality or the Council of Ministers, Khieu Kanharith said.

The government also ordered closed small-time gambling houses which set up roulette wheels throughout the city at night.

"They bring armed bandits, armed robbers to the country, and you know gambling brings a lot of problems for the country," he said.

Khmer Rouge Spokesman Criticizes UN Official

BK1303083393 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 12 Mar 93

[*"Clarification by the spokesman of the party of Democratic Kampuchea concerning the dissemination of news by Eric Falt, UNTAC spokesman, on the Vietnamese in Tonle Sap;" dated 13 March—read by announcer*]

[Text] I. Eric Falt, UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] spokesman, has disseminated some information hinting at Democratic Kampuchea [DK] involvement with the ethnic Vietnamese in Tonle Sap. People have noted that this the language Eric Falt has been deliberately using represents a harmful political intention against DK. Furthermore, the Hanoi Vietnamese and Vietnam's puppets have loudly accused others for every problem in Cambodia without thinking that they are the aggressors and occupiers in Cambodia, and Vietnam's puppets and lackeys.

II. What is the truth in Cambodia at present? UNTAC, the Vietnamese aggressors, and the puppets, Vietnam's lackeys, have not thought about the consequences of their acts. Instead they have only concentrated on committing aggression against Cambodia and occupying it; they have constantly oppressed, put pressure on, intimidated, and massacred Cambodians. They are not concerned with Cambodia's peace, independence, sovereignty, or territorial integrity.

For over 13 years, the Vietnamese aggressors have robbed the Cambodian people and plundered Cambodia's water, land, timber, fish, as well as the Cambodian people themselves. The Vietnamese aggressors have massacred the Cambodian people; they are the cause of hundreds of thousands and millions of Cambodian people dead, wounded, and disabled. Look at how the K-5 forced labor plan of the Vietnamese aggressors has killed the Cambodian people. The Vietnamese aggressors and the puppets, traitors to the nation and Vietnam's lackeys, have rounded up people and their children to become soldiers and fight on their behalf. These crimes by the Vietnamese aggressors and Vietnam's puppets against the Cambodian nation and people are extremely bad; they are worse than those of the Nazis (?Gestapo); and they are worse than the Congo's (Comatan). UNTAC spokesman Eric Falt has said nothing about all the above issues.

At first, when UNTAC came to Cambodia, people were hoping that UNTAC would be fairly competent and that UNTAC would come to correctly implement the Paris

agreement to end Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia so that Cambodia recovers genuine peace, independence, and sovereignty with territorial integrity. On the contrary, UNTAC has come to Cambodia to cooperate with the Vietnamese aggressors and Vietnam's puppets to violate and destroy the Paris agreement. UNTAC has colluded with the Vietnamese aggressors and Vietnam's puppets to implement a common strategy and tactic to kill Cambodia's peace, independence, and sovereignty, and kill the Cambodian nation, people, and race.

For 16 months UNTAC has been destroying the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement. UNTAC has colluded with the Vietnamese aggressors and Vietnam's puppets and lackeys, to maintain in power the regime of the puppets, traitors to the nation, and through this maintain the old Vietnamese forces in Cambodia and allow new Vietnamese forces to successively flow into the country. Furthermore, UNTAC has been forthcoming in the defense of Vietnamese aggressor forces and has drafted laws allowing the Vietnamese aggressors to vote in Cambodia. The Vietnamese aggressors continue to annex a large part of Cambodian territory along the border from Ratanakiri to Kampot provinces; they have annexed Cambodia's sea, continental shelf, and islands.

The Vietnamese aggressors and Vietnam's puppets have set up their secret police and secret hit squads to carry out terrorist and fascist activities to oppress, threaten, intimidate, and murder the Cambodian people and members of various political parties. Eric Falt has been silent on these issues.

UNTAC and Eric Falt should read for themselves in UNTAC's own report how the Cambodian people detest UNTAC.

III. This is the result of the policy and malicious activities of the Vietnamese aggressors and the puppets, traitors to the nation and Vietnam's lackeys. This is the result of the policy and malicious activities of UNTAC leaders against the Cambodian nation and people. For 16 months, UNTAC leaders have not verified the Vietnamese aggressor forces and have not granted a role to the Supreme National Council [SNC] to enable the latter to carry out its role as the legitimate body and the sole source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period. UNTAC leaders have not cooperated with the SNC to control the five ministries. Instead, they have allowed the Vietnamese aggressors and Vietnam's puppets to continue killing at will people and members of various political parties.

All this has made the Cambodian people in and outside the country very angry; they are furious because the Vietnamese aggressors and Vietnam's puppets have carried out cruel activities to murder people with UNTAC's collaboration. Who can accept such activities by the Vietnamese aggressors, Vietnam's puppets, and UNTAC leaders? Who can accept this? Even God cannot accept it. The same is true for every ethnic group and every

country; they cannot bow and let aggressors and evil people kill them at will. Bad consequences have followed such things in the past and the present, and will do so in the future. The Vietnamese aggressors, the puppets, Vietnam's lackeys, and UNTAC leaders say that this is not the business of any parties. However, this is the business of the entire Cambodian nation and people in and outside the country.

Many countries that have closely followed the Cambodian problem have realized that the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets are the root cause of the destructive war in Cambodia, which has been fueled by the UNTAC leaders. Even the majority of the UNTAC personnel realize it and see it this way.

IV. The PDK holds that to solve the Cambodian problem, UNTAC leaders and Eric Falt should not accuse others; they should have a close look at themselves. They should look at the Vietnamese aggressors and Vietnam's puppets, and UNTAC's collusion with Vietnam. In other words, it is UNTAC and Eric Falt; the root cause of all problems in Cambodia should be looked at.

The PDK, like the Cambodian nation and people and the Cambodian national resistance forces, hold that to solve all the problems UNTAC leaders should implement the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement correctly, meticulously, and comprehensively, and in particular the following major and key points: 1. UNTAC should grant rights and power to the SNC to enable the latter to carry out its task as the legitimate body and the sole source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period;

2. UNTAC should cooperate with the SNC in verifying that all types of Vietnamese aggressor forces are withdrawn from Cambodia and do not return;

3. UNTAC should cooperate with the SNC to control the five ministries.

Only in this way can there be a neutral political atmosphere, security, and peace in Cambodia. However, if UNTAC leaders do not implement the Paris agreement and continue to collude with the Vietnamese aggressors and Vietnam's puppets in the plan to kill the Cambodian nation and race, it is like fueling the flames of war with gasoline and spreading the fire even more.

On this issue, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, has said in his successive statements at the end of 1992 and early 1993 that the Vietnamese aggressors, Vietnam's puppets, and UNTAC are the ones making the Cambodian situation worse, plunging it into complete darkness, and causing Cambodia to lose peace, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. The policy of these people only fuels and prolongs the war in Cambodia.

All the above confirms that the policy of the UNTAC leaders in Cambodia is one of splashing gasoline on the flames of Vietnam's war of aggression and not one of using water to put out the fire. [Dated] 13 March

[Signed] DK spokesman

Phnom Penh Radio Reports Siem Reap Incident

*BK1303130193 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon
Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT
13 Mar 93*

[Text] According to a latest report from the Commission for Military Coordination with the United Nations, at 2030 on the night of 10 March, 30 Khmer Rouge rebels from the 92d Regiment of the 980th Division led by (Hoan) and (Ol), disguised as civilians, and fully armed with AK rifles, sneaked into Phnum Kraom village, Chong Sneat commune, Siem Reap Provincial seat, which is densely populated with ethnic Vietnamese.

As they left the village, these Khmer Rouge rebels fired a barrage of shots into a video shop, killing 35 ethnic Vietnamese and a Cambodian and wounding 39 ethnic Vietnamese and four Cambodians. They then took away a large quantity of money and gold. Such barbarous killings and robbery in Siem Reap Province clearly has displayed the cruel nature of the genocidal Khmer Rouge bandits.

Commentary Cites Threat of Vietnamese 'Aggressors'

*BK1503095793 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great
National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian
2330 GMT 14 Mar 93*

[Text] In the wake of the people's doing away with a number of the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] in the Tonle Sap lake area, Mr. Akashi has issued a statement saying that those carrying out activities against the Yuon will be punished. Commenting on the statement, the people living along the banks of Tonle Sap Lake in Siem Reap Province say Mr. Akashi's action constitutes a blatant protection of the Yuon, a collusion with the Yuon, and a continuous preservation of the Yuon aggressor forces in Cambodia.

The people further say that their joint destruction of the Yuon in the Tonle Sap Lake area is correct, because for more than 13 years, they have been extremely furious with the Yuon aggressors' arrogant plundering of their land and fish. As for UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia], it has turned a blind eye and a deaf ear to these activities, giving the Yuon aggressors a free hand. Now, the Cambodian people cannot endure the Yuon aggressors' annexation and plundering of Cambodia's land and fish any longer. They can no longer depend on UNTAC. The only way left for them is to fight to boot the Yuon out of Cambodia in order to claim back their land and fish.

The people have warned UNTAC that the Yuon issue is not an issue concerning immigrants, but an issue of the Yuon forces' invasion and occupation of Cambodia and the loss of Cambodia's sovereignty and territorial integrity. As such, the people have to continue their struggle; otherwise the Yuon will swallow up Cambodia. And UNTAC should not accuse the people of instigating racism in any case.

Nobody allows the Yuon to enter Cambodia. They have come here by themselves overtly for the purpose of invading the country. No nation in the world would condone such an action. Japan has already voiced an earthshaking protest against the arrival on its shore of just a few Yuon boat people. How about Cambodia, a small country with a small population, what danger is it facing after years of influx of the Yuon?

Commentary Refutes SRV Statement on Killings

BK1603034793 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 15 Mar 93

[Station commentary: "The Yuon Hanoi, Accused of Being the Infamously Notorious Aggressor Bandits and Arch-Criminal Doing Away with the Cambodian Nation and People, Have No Rights Whatsoever To Condemn Innocent People, the Victims of Their War of Aggression"]

[Text] The man called Le Mai, deputy foreign minister of the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] Hanoi aggressors, recently made a blatant accusation about the killing of the Yuon in Siem Reap Province. Le Mai, however, has not realized that he himself has long been accused of being the invader and occupier of Cambodia. Indeed, the Yuon Hanoi have invaded Cambodia for more than 13 years. They have installed the Phnom Penh puppets as a smokescreen to cover up their acts of aggression and also as their instrument of aggression.

The Yuon and puppets have joined hands to do away with the Cambodian nation, people, and race for more than 13 years. The Yuon Hanoi aggressors have persecuted the Cambodian people and plundered Cambodia's maritime and terrestrial territory, fish, and logs. The Yuon Hanoi and the traitorous puppets have killed, wounded, and disabled hundreds of thousands of the Cambodian people. They have also forced the people and their children to serve as soldiers and die in their place.

Moreover, the Yuon Hanoi have ordered their cat's-paws to carry out fascist political activities so as to put pressure on, intimidate, and murder the Cambodian people and members of various political parties. They have continued pumping Yuon nationals, who now number more than 2 million, into Cambodia. The Yuon and puppets have granted Cambodian citizenship and issued Cambodian identity cards to those Yuon who have already registered as voters with UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia]. The Yuon aggressors ripped off a big part of Cambodia's territory along its land and maritime borders.

These actions have made the Cambodian people extremely furious and have clearly shown that the Yuon aggressors and their puppets are the greatest war criminals and archassassins massacring the Cambodian people. The Cambodian people's court of justice has already denounced and condemned them. The people's

court as well as the peace-independence and justice-loving countries the world over have also already denounced and accused the Yuon and puppets of being the greatest war criminals killing the Cambodian people and eliminating the Cambodian race. Therefore, the Yuon aggressors, who are accused of being the archbandits plundering Cambodia's territory and archcriminals massacring the Cambodian people, have no rights whatsoever to condemn the innocent people who are the victims of their invasion. On the contrary, it is the Yuon aggressors who should be accused of being the invaders and occupiers of Cambodia.

The Cambodian people and the people of the world have denounced and condemned them. Histories of Cambodia and the world have also denounced and condemned them.

UN Confirms Khmer Rouge Killed Vietnamese

BK1603090893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0829 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, March 16 (AFP)—The United Nations said Tuesday that the Khmer Rouge were definitely responsible for a brutal massacre of 33 ethnic Vietnamese civilians in northwest Cambodia last week.

"The sole motive for the attack seems to have been to terrorize and to kill," U.N. spokesman Eric Falt said. "The next step is to try to identify the culprits."

Falt said the findings were from a preliminary report, and the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) had to await the final report before taking any action against the Khmer Rouge.

U.N. investigators identified two of the bodies of the attackers found floating in the Tonle Sap Lake as those of Khmer Rouge guerrillas, he said.

The Phnom Penh government said they were from Khmer Rouge Division 980 which operates in Siem Reap province.

Falt said a dozen gunmen carried out the attack, boarding houseboats in the lake south of Siem Reap city and spraying them with semi-automatic weapons and machine gun fire.

"Several hundred rounds of ammunition were fired," he said.

The dead attackers were "possibly killed in their own crossfire," Falt said.

The first reports had said a Vietnamese woman returned fire, killing her attackers.

A list of the victims showed most were from the same three families, nine were under 12 years old and seven were teenagers. Nearly half were women, one of whom was eight-months pregnant.

U.N. sources said UNTAC had been informed by the villagers who had received menacing visits from the Khmer Rouge about the pending attack.

Asked whether UNTAC was aware of it, Falt replied: "Every night we get reports that there might be an attack on such-and-such a place. It is always verified and protection is granted as much as possible."

The Khmer Rouge guerrillas forced fishermen on shore to take them by boat to the floating village, Falt said.

They changed out of their Khmer Rouge uniforms into civilian clothes on the boat, and U.N. investigators found some uniforms left behind, Falt said.

Witnesses heard them address each other as "comrade," a typical form of address among the communist force, he said.

UNTAC Chief Admits Mission Falls Short of Goals

BK1603064193 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0407 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Text] Phnom Penh 16 Mar (SPK)—UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) head, Japanese diplomat Yasushi Akashi, said on 15 January that UNTAC had achieved few of its objectives one year to the day it started operating.

In a statement to his staff, Akashi, reflecting on the year's work, acknowledged the U.N. peacekeeping body had fallen short in its mission to disarm the country's warring factions, ensure peace, and hold an election for a new government.

He urged his staff to boost their morale for the upcoming election in May.

"All these setbacks can be disheartening. But nobody ever said this mission was going to be easy," he said.

"The past year has been hard and the next few months will be harder still. We have accomplished much we can be proud of, though the mass media often magnify our disappointments and take our achievements for granted."

He pointed to the fact that nearly all of the 370,000 Cambodian refugees living in Thai border camps have come home, albeit to an unstable environment.

He praised the "heroic achievement" of electoral registrars who signed up 4.7 million voters.

He said the standard of living of Cambodians has been improved due to public works and civic action projects by the 20,000 peacekeepers deployed throughout the country.

He noted the creation of the U.N. special prosecutor's office to deal with political violence, "though our efforts are hampered by the fact that no competent court has been found in Cambodia to try these men."

The 1991 Paris peace accords have had to be altered due to the non-participation of the radical Khmer Rouge and the consequent refusal of other parties to go along as well, he said.

"Sometimes the behavior of the Cambodian parties makes it seem as if only UNTAC is trying to carry out the Paris agreement, even though all of them signed it," Akashi said.

Government Denies Violating Log Export Ban

BK1303092493 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0423 GMT 13 Mar 93

[Text] Phnom Penh 13 Mar (SPK)—A spokesman of the State of Cambodia (SOC) Government has rebutted the claims by certain newspapers alleging that "the State of Cambodia has violated the log export embargo" imposed by the Supreme National Council.

During a press conference on 10 March, Mr. Khieu Kanharit, minister [as received] of the Council of Ministers Office, stressed that since 1 January the Ministries of Trade and Agriculture have not issued any log export licenses.

"We have strictly respected the ban on the export of logs," said Kanharit who also called on the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to cooperate with the government in preventing illegal exports.

Mr. Khieu Kanharit rejected the allegations that the projected World Bank loan to Cambodia was annulled because of differences among the Cambodian factions, underlining that in reality it was because the Khmer Rouge and the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] faction opposed any international aid to Cambodia.

He affirmed that such aid is not meant to give comfort to the existing government or administrative structure, but to improve the agricultural and educational sectors.

Concerning the confrontational relationship between the SOC government and UNTAC, Mr. Khieu Kanharit affirmed that their relations had improved.

Phnom Penh Troops Block Refugees From Thailand

BK1403011493 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English 14 Mar 93 p 2

[Text] Aranyaprathet—A convoy of repatriated Cambodian refugees was blocked by a Phnom Penh force on Route 5 after leaving Site 2 Camp in Prachin Buri's Ta Phraya District on Friday.

About 30 Cambodian soldiers, armed with heavy weapons, erected a road block about 12 kilometres from Si So Phon and stopped the convoy from travelling further.

The soldiers claimed that fighting was going on between a group of Khmer bandits and Dutch forces under the

United Nations' Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) further along the route.

The convoy comprised 1,307 refugees in about 100 buses heading to the Otake Reception Centre in Battambang.

Officials of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said the refugees had to be returned to the reception centre in Si So Phon.

Repatriation was not resumed yesterday.

UNHCR officials are concerned about being unable to meet the March 30 deadline set for the closure of all refugee holding centres in Thailand. Site 2 will be the last camp to be closed.

UNTAC forces in Battambang and Banteay Meanchey provinces have been ordered to step up preparations following a series of robberies on Route 5 by Khmer bandits.

The route linking Poi Pet, Si So Phon and Battambang is now considered unsafe for travellers.

Meanwhile, It Loeu, deputy governor of Banteay Meanchey Province, yesterday defended the Phnom Penh troops blocking the UNHCR convoy as having good intentions as they tried to prevent the refugees and officials from possible danger.

Mr It Loeu, who attended a meeting of the Prachin Buri Provincial Chamber of Commerce in Aranyaprathet District yesterday, said the Phnom Penh force had received a report that a group of "undisciplined" Phnom Penh soldiers would ambush and hold up a combined police-military task force from Phnom Penh and UNTAC's Dutch forces on Route 5 on Friday.

Mr It Loeu said these undisciplined soldiers have always used heavy arms in demanding "illegal tax" from people travelling on Route 5.

He said these soldiers had exchanged gunfire with the Phnom Penh combined unit and Dutch forces on Thursday after the latter ordered them to lay down their arms.

The planned ambush on Friday was aimed at taking a revenge against the Phnom Penh and UNTAC forces, Mr It Loeu. [sentence as published]

'Sources': Ta Mok Leading KR Preah Vihar Offensive

93P30029A

[Editorial Report] Ho Chi Minh City TUOI TRE in Vietnamese on 5 January carries on page 12 a report citing unidentified "foreign sources" stating that Khmer Rouge leader Ta Mok commands four divisions along Preah Vihear Province's border with Thailand. The units, totaling about 1,000 troops, are on a "coordinated offensive" in eastern Preah Vihear Province, according to the report.

Indonesia

Commentary Hails Assembly Nonvoting System

BK1203113993 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 12 Mar 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Indonesian nation has just completed its constitutional duty following the closing of the General Assembly of the 1993 People's Consultative Assembly [MPR]. Through their representatives in the MPR, the Indonesian people managed to elect Mr. Suharto as president and Mr. Try Sutrisno as vice president for the 1993-1998 term. The MPR has also adopted a resolution for a broad outline of 1993 state policies, a mandate to be implemented by the president.

Convening the assembly to draft the broad outline of state policies is a state practice that revolves on a five year cycle as required by the Constitution. Under the New Order Government, the state practice has proceeded well and smoothly.

Even though the second phase of the 11-day General Assembly was filled with arguments and differences of opinions among members, the assembly is still capable of reaching an agreement on the draft resolution that is recognized by the political system that Indonesia has been adopting so far.

If we review the agenda of the assembly from 1 to 11 March, we find that several matters should be noted, particularly matters discussed by members of the three commissions in the MPR. The existence of Pancasila democracy was thoroughly tested during these forum discussions. We thank God that whatever agreements were concluded at the end of the discussions were achieved in the system of Pancasila democracy.

To cite an example, in the discussion by members of Commission A on tentative decrees, the Indonesian Democratic Party (PDI) faction proposed a draft resolution on the amendment of the existing MPR decree on general elections. The PDI faction also proposed a draft on the amendment of MPR Resolution III/1978 on general elections during discussions with Commission B. The other four factions in the MPR did not propose any amendments to the decree on general elections. If the MPR members had taken a shortcut measure to decide on the PDI proposal by voting, they would not have spent a long time discussing the matter and the result would have been known quickly.

Even though constitutionally the voting system is allowed when the MPR runs short of time when a decision is to be made, they are aware that if an agreement is reached using the voting system, it does not reflect a system of deliberation to achieve the consensus. In the process of administering the nation so far, the MPR is more in favor of adopting the system of consensus through deliberation. The voting system is not

suitable to Indonesian society and culture and is normally used as a last resort if the discussion has absolutely come to a deadlock. Any decision achieved by the voting system in the assembly will not please everyone. Perhaps that is why all MPR members preferred to use deliberation to achieve a consensus approach to seek a point of convergence through lobbying before they reached a decision on PDI's general election proposal. After some time the result will eventually be known. Even though this method took a relatively long time, the PDI faction finally withdrew its proposal.

It is rather disheartening to take a long time before making a decision on the matter, but a final decision will almost give satisfaction to every group because no one was forced to make any judgements. This issue must be underlined, considering that the MPR General Assembly is also the highest forum on political education in managing the nation.

It is hoped that the method that has been adopted by the highest legislative body will be emulated by other lower institutions in Indonesia.

REPUBLIKA Hails Choice of Sutrisno

*BK1303072293 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia
Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 13 Mar 93*

[From the press review]

[Text] REPUBLIKA writes that Vice President Try Sutrisno has many additional good points because of the absence of any distance between him and the people. He will consistently understand the people's aspirations because he has always felt that he is part of them. He will also favorably accept criticism and be ready to make changes if he makes an error. According to REPUBLIKA, he will not lose authority because of this attitude. On the contrary, this attitude will motivate the people to play a bigger role in development. Nonetheless, Try Sutrisno is a phenomenon. He is a proof that the New Order government has made rapid social mobility possible.

Papers Welcome Suharto-Sutrisno Combination

*BK1503053193 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia
Network in Indonesian 0600 12 Mar 93*

[From the press review]

[Text] SUARA KARYA says the fact that the quality of democracy has been improved in the General Assembly of the 1993 People's Consultative Assembly [MPR] is reflected by the process of nomination of Mr. Suharto as the president and Try Sutrisno as the vice president of the Republic of Indonesia for the 1993-98 term. The sign that the quality of Indonesia's democratic life has continued to improve is the emergence of several groups that openly voiced their own different reasons for nominating Mr. Suharto and Try Sutrisno for the nation's top slots, even though others say this is a successionist

process. This daily pays special attention to the issue of nominating Try Sutrisno as the vice presidential candidate because before the five factions reached a unanimous agreement, other developments were indicating that there were attempts by some groups to nominate other candidates for the post.

According to SUARA KARYA, even though some groups caused a stir during the process to nominate Try Sutrisno as the new vice president, they have now calmed down, agree with the rest of the assembly members, and are working towards a better democratic life.

KOMPAS welcomes the appointment of Suharto as the president and Try Sutrisno as the vice president with feelings of relief, enthusiasm, and gratitude to God. This daily is confident that MPR members, the people, and the mass media are also excited over the choice of the nation's leadership. According to KOMPAS, there are many reasons for everyone to have such feelings because Indonesia has kept its national leader, who will guarantee stability in the country for the next five years. KOMPAS believes that political life will be refreshed and renewed in stages, in line with the people's aspirations.

This daily is of the opinion that the combination of President Suharto, who is an experienced leader and statesman, and Vice President Try Sutrisno, who belongs to the successor generation, is a combination necessary to guarantee continuity in national leadership and be well prepared for the succession period.

PIKIRAN RAKYAT underlines a part of President Suharto's inaugural speech made after the swearing-in ceremony yesterday in which the president said that the task he has received as the holder of the MPR mandate in the next five years is not a light one. Even though there will be new expectations and opportunities, new challenges will be more complex. According to PIKIRAN RAKYAT, from this passage of the speech we understand that President Suharto is calling on all Indonesians to be realistic about things. If we go into detail on the deeper meaning of the passage, we can see that it means that he wants all of us to work harder because we are going to face more serious challenges while implementing the next phase of the national development program.

'Superpower Folly' Causing Upheaval in Cambodia

*BK1203121193 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian
22 Feb 93 p 4*

[Editorial: "Superpowers Cause Chaos in Cambodia"]

[Text] The former U.S. ambassador to Indonesia, Paul Wolfowitz, spoke about the Cambodian problem during his recent visit to Jakarta. He said: "UNTAC's [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] failure is an indication that the United Nations is inexperienced in solving the peace issue in a particular region."

Wolfowitz, who has completed his tenure in Indonesia, was appointed as U.S. assistant defense secretary. He should learn more from history and should not have made such a remark. Because he has also thoroughly read reports from newspapers concerning Cambodia, he should understand that the current crisis is not due to UNTAC's folly, but the existing differences between the superpowers.

The U.S. diplomat should understand that the existing crisis which befell Cambodia is the result of the CIA's intrigue, which resulted in taking over the Cambodian Government by Marshal Lon Nol in January 1970 when Prince Sihanouk was in Paris. The U.S. Congress probed the incident and stated that the CIA should bear the brunt for its involvement.

Sihanouk then sought asylum in Beijing because France was reluctant to accommodate him. Following this, the Pol Potist left wing armed faction, together with Khieu Samphan and support from China, launched an armed offensive. Finally, Lon Nol was ousted following the defeat of his U.S.-backed Army by the Pol Potist Army.

The Pol Potist regime resorted to genocidal actions and Heng Samrin, who was supported by the Vietnamese Army, attacked Phnom Penh, forcing out the Pol Potist guerrillas who were based in the jungles bordering Cambodia and Thailand.

The Cambodian situation became more chaotic, and in international circles proved detrimental to the United States. The CIA then embarked on efforts to return Sihanouk to power in Cambodia. Thus, he became the leader of the Cambodian Government in exile.

Despite holding the Paris peace conference on Cambodia and the JIM (Jakarta Informal Meeting) [preceding term in English], the situation continued to worsen.

At the end of 1992, the UN decided to impose an oil embargo on factions which were unwilling to cooperate with UNTAC in the settlement of the Cambodian problem. It stressed that an oil embargo would be imposed on those factions who refused to lay down their weapons. All factions—with the exception of the Khmer Rouge—answered the UN's call.

Currently, the U.S. fully supports the UN's decision and this was clarified by the U.S. ambassador to the UN, Edward Perkins, in his statement to the United Nations Security Council in December 1992. The Khmer Rouge was given a limited time frame, which lasted until 31 January 1993, to indicate their willingness to lay down their weapons and participate in the 1993 May general elections.

The stipulated date has expired and without UNTAC's concurrence the Hun Sen faction launched an armed offensive on the Khmer Rouge at their bases. The offensive was a failure. Instead, the Khmer Rouge counterattacked the Hun Sen faction.

No one was surprised about the Khmer Rouge's strength because some Thai generals were involved in providing logistical support to the Khmer Rouge. Besides, the Thai

generals involved conducted bilaterally beneficial trade with the Khmer Rouge. The Khmer Rouge traded commodities such as timber, gems, and narcotics while the Thai generals involved provided logistical support in the form of machinery, medicines, and weapons.

That was why no one was surprised when in early December 1992, the U.S. assistant secretary of state, William Clark, in his speech to the Mid-America Committee in Chicago stated: "Regarding the Cambodian problem, it forms an obstacle and we should seek a just and peaceful settlement to the problem. Moreover, we have a commitment to fully implement the Paris Accord. When they have satisfied the requirements, they can then join the process; if not, the general elections will be carried out during the summer in the 80 percent of Cambodia which is not under Khmer Rouge control."

William Clark's speech was broadcast by USIS, the U.S. Information Service to foreign countries. And, if Paul Wolfowitz did not read thoroughly, then UNTAC should not be blamed.

It would be appropriate for Americans to learn from developing nations and, likewise, developing nations should also learn from their developed counterparts.

That is why the chaotic situations around the globe are not the result of the developing nations' folly, but because of superpower folly and aggravation.

CSIS Director Predicts Disturbances in Cambodia

BK1203122393 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1122 GMT 12 Mar 93

[Text] Jakarta, March 12 (OANA/ANTARA)—The Khmer Rouge may again resort to security disturbances in Cambodia after being officially excluded from the May 23 to 27 general elections under the United Nations direct supervision, a noted political observer said here Thursday.

Director of the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Harry Chan Silalahi said that the exclusion would mean that the political group would not be involved in Cambodia's future affairs.

This would also bear the consequence that the Khmer Rouge would be losing its claim of being one of Cambodia's political parties, in spite of the fact that one fourth of the country's territory was under its occupation, he said.

Ironically, analysts believed that peace could only be safeguarded if the Khmer Rouge took part in the general elections, he said.

It should be remembered that Cambodia is a country being torn by a civil war. It would be difficult to establish peace in Cambodia without the civil war be quelled first, he said.

Asked why China as a permanent member of the UN Security Council and past ally of the Khmer Rouge had supported the resolution to exclude it from the May

elections, Silalahi said the country had no direct interests anymore in Cambodia today.

Moreover, the country now already has good relations with Sihanouk, leader of the Cambodian's Supreme National Council, he said.

In the UN Security Council, Silalahi said, most decisive are the votes of western nations, but now it seems that China is not capable of dodging pressures from them.

Silalahi also said that being the real power, Sihanouk's leadership would remain in Cambodia.

He would even enjoy more legitimation, more freedom to act in facing the rebellion and security disturbances by the Khmer Rouge, he said.

Court Hears Allegations in Xanana Trial

BK1103161893 Hong Kong AFP in English 1016 GMT 11 Mar 93

[Text] Dili, East Timor, March 11 (AFP)—An East Timor court heard Thursday a police document read out at the trial of separatist leader Xanana Gusmao which alleged he had ordered two terrorist actions, one of which killed a soldier.

Saturnino da Costa Belo, 32, who was declared mentally ill by a police doctor on March 4, could not appear in court and a declaration he allegedly gave to police shortly after his arrest in December was read instead.

According to the document read in court, he said he knew that Gusmao had ordered two separate attacks in the former Portuguese colony—one in the Kalikai subregency in 1982 and the other in Bacau city in 1984—which led to the death of one soldier and several civilians.

Through his interpreter, Gusmao told the court in Portuguese that what had been said in Saturnino's police deposition and a truck driver witness were true.

Earlier this month the chief judge declared Saturnino unfit to appear as a witness and adjourned the court after he caused an uproar in the courtroom during an appearance as the second witness for the prosecution.

He had raised his fist and yelled "Long Live East Timor!" and "Long Live Independence!" and while refusing to answer the judge's questions had shouted "I am here to defend East Timor and independence," and called for more respect for human rights in Indonesia.

The court later Thursday heard prosecution witness Fransisco Lui alias Lui Tjung Nan, 31, a truck driver who recounted how he smuggled Gusmao out of Dili under boxes of noodles in the back of a truck last July.

Gusmao, whose trial started February 1, faces charges of rebellion, conspiracy and trying to set up a separate state, all of which carry maximum penalties of life in prison. He is also accused with illegally possessing weapons, which can be punishable by death.

Laos

Spokesman 'Strongly Condemns' Khmer Rouge Killings

BK1303150993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 13 Mar 93

[Statement by Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman]

[Text] According to a foreign report, on 10 March the armed forces of the Democratic Kampuchea side launched an attack against Chong Sneat commune, some 10 km south of Siem Reap provincial seat, killing 33 overseas Vietnamese fishermen, including eight children, and wounding 29 others—26 overseas Vietnamese and three Cambodians.

The aforementioned massacre of the overseas Vietnamese is the most serious and barbarous crime ever committed after the signing of the Paris agreement on the Cambodia issue because it was targeted against defenseless civilians, especially overseas Vietnamese who have been living in Cambodia legitimately like any other foreigners living in that country. At the same time, the incident also revived the memory of the genocide and hatred between the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] Foreign Ministry spokesman solemnly condemns the massacre of the said overseas Vietnamese. As a signatory to the Paris agreement on Cambodia, the LPDR is gravely concerned with such developments and calls on those committing the crime to immediately cease such acts and to strictly implement the Paris agreement on Cambodia so as to create an atmosphere of mutual trust before the holding of the general elections in Cambodia in order to bring peace and national reconciliation to that country.

Commentary Denounces Killings

BK1603041993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Commentary from 16 March PASASON: "Inhuman Conduct Constitutes An Obstruction To Peace"]

[Text] Respected listeners, the spokesman of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] issued a statement on the massacre of overseas Vietnamese residents in Cambodia late last week. The statement noted that forces of the Democratic Kampuchea [Khmer Rouge] side launched an attack against Chong Sneat commune, some 10 km south of Siem Reap, killing 33 overseas Vietnamese fishermen, including eight children, and wounding 29 others—26 overseas Vietnamese and three Cambodian people. The state denounced the said act as a barbarous act of killing helpless people. It noted that such an act is also considered an act of reviving the memory of the genocide and the hatred between the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples.

As everyone knows, the overseas Vietnamese, like other foreigners living in various countries in the world in

general, have legitimately resided in Cambodia and they possess no weapons to defend themselves. They, therefore, can be killed by the armed Cambodian authorities at any time or through any means they want only if they do not bring into consideration humaneness and international laws, in particular the Paris accord on Cambodia as jointly signed by the various sides.

The aforesaid inhuman act of the Democratic Kampuchea forces has been widely condemned by world public opinion. Of late, XINHUA News Agency also published a statement by the spokesman of the PRC Foreign Affairs Ministry, which voiced full support for the implementation of the peace agreement and expressed an opposition to an act of violating the agreement, including the killing of the people. Kozyrev, foreign affairs minister of Russia, noted in his message to Nguyen Manh Cam, foreign affairs minister of Vietnam, on the said issue that the act of the Democratic Kampuchea or the Khieu Samphan faction of Cambodia is against the Paris accord and that it is an act of openly violating the international law.

Therefore, it is time now for the Democratic Kampuchea side to listen to world public opinion. The best thing for the Democratic Kampuchea side to do now is to adhere to the principles of humanity, turn to strictly complying with the Paris accord on Cambodia, and together with other Cambodian factions create an atmosphere of mutual trust before the elections with a view to bringing about durable peace and national concord in accordance with the aspirations of the Cambodian people.

Thai Border Committees Meet 11 Mar

BK1403135193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 12 Mar 93

[Text] On the afternoon of 11 March, the task force units of the Lao-Thai and Thai-Lao general border peace-keeping cooperation committees held their first meeting of 1993 in Nong Khai Province of Thailand.

At the meeting, the Lao side was headed by Colonel Phommachak Southisan, head of the task force unit of the Lao-Thai general border peace-keeping cooperation committee; and the Thai side by Col. Samrit Niamphan, head of the task force unit of the Thai-Lao general border peace-keeping cooperation committee. Other officials of the two sides also attended.

During the meeting, the Lao side proposed a joint agreement comprising 12 articles, reached by heads of the task force units of the Lao-Thai and Thai-Lao general border peace-keeping cooperation committees, on the definition of the roles, scope of responsibilities, rights, and duties of the task force units of the two sides. The agreement is aimed at improving the efficiency of coordination between the task force units of the two sides in conformity with the guidelines and measures laid down by the cochairmen of the two sides.

To this issue, the Thai side gave a positive response by expressing its readiness to further study the agreement. It is expected that at the next meeting, the heads of the two sides' task force units will sign the agreement in a unified manner.

In the meantime, the Thai side also announced its readiness to provide short-and long-term training to Lao army personnel in the agricultural field. Col. Phommachak Southisan, head of Lao-Thai general border peace-keeping cooperation committee, gave an interview to our station reporter on the meeting's atmosphere as follows:

[Begin Phommachak recording] The meeting today was very good because the two sides discussed a resolution mutually arrived at by their task force units. The Thai side agreed to take the proposal back for further study and consideration. It will reply to the Lao side later. I can say that the atmosphere of the meeting was very good and joyous. The Lao side noted that if the two sides reach unanimity on this agreement, then they will exchange (?views) during the second meeting. The next meeting will be held in Vientiane, Laos. [end recording]

SRV Province Signs Cooperation Memorandum

BK1503102093 Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 15 Mar 93

[Text] Vientiane, March 15 (KPL)—Delegations of the Lao Province of Khammouane and of the Vietnamese Province of Quang Binh have recently held a meeting to discuss the upgrading of relations and cooperation between the two provinces, reported a KPL correspondent based in Khammouane.

The delegation of the Lao side was headed by Khen Phalivong, head of the provincial economic, planning, and finance department. Heading the Vietnamese side was Trinh Binh Vien, head of the provincial commerce and tourism department.

The sides touched and unanimously agreed on the development of potential all-round cooperation between the two provinces.

The two delegations also signed a memorandum on the cooperation in commerce, construction, tourism, agriculture, irrigation and rural development.

Information Minister Receives PRC Writers' Group

BK1503071693 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 13 Mar 93

[Text] At 0900 today, Osakan Thammatheva, minister of information and culture, received at the guest hall of the ministry in Vientiane, a courtesy call from a delegation of the Writers' Association of the PRC led by (Deng Humeng), secretary general of the association. The Chinese delegation is on a current visit to our country.

On this occasion, Osakan Thammatheva and (Deng Humeng) talked and exchanged views on relations, cooperation, and mutual assistance between the writers' associations of Laos and China. The minister welcomed the PRC Writers' Association delegation's visit to Laos, a visit which, he noted, reflects the increasing development of relations and cooperation between the writers' associations of the two countries.

President Sends Condolences on Death of Wang Zhen

BK1603051293 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 16 Mar 93

[Message of condolence from Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, to Yang Shangkun, president of the PRC, on the death of PRC Vice President Wang Zhen—dated 13 March]

[Text] I am deeply sad to have been informed that Comrade Wang Zhen, vice president of the PRC, passed away on 12 March. The demise of Comrade Wang Zhen is a loss of a senior leader to the Chinese party and state. It is also a loss of a close comrade and friend to the Lao people.

On behalf of the party, government, and people of Laos and in my own name, I would like to share this deep sorrow with the CPC, the government, and the fraternal Chinese people as well as the bereaved family.

Philippines

Ramos 'Still Studying' Use of Emergency Powers

HK1603084693 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 16 Mar 93 p 7

[Report by Manny Mogato]

[Text] Malacanang has not completely ruled out imposing "limited" emergency powers to resolve the country's worsening power crisis.

At yesterday's regular press conference at the Palace President Ramos said he was still studying the proposal from some legislators to invoke his constitutional mandate and exercise limited emergency powers.

But he did not say when to make a decision to use special emergency powers or reject the unpopular proposal.

The President first floated the idea of using his emergency powers to solve the power crisis during a brief question-and-answer portion at the eighth Kapihan sa Maynila [Manila coffee] forum in Manila Hotel last week.

He reasoned that the executive needed special emergency powers to remove certain "obstacles" that delay the completion of some of the government's fast-track power plant projects.

But the idea drew strong objections from a number of senators who feared that the emergency powers might lead to abuses and more serious problems.

One of the reasons for the delay in the completion of fast-track power projects was the lack of funding, especially local counterparts for foreign loans.

The President's visit to Japan last week gave the Ramos administration a glint of hope in resolving financial problems in putting up power plants.

At least \$500 million of the total \$930.74 million grants and loans Mr. Ramos has secured from the Japanese government and business groups will be used to finance power plants, like the 700-megawatt coal project.

But this has not convinced the President to set aside proposals from some congressional leaders to use his emergency powers to resolve the country's nagging power problem. He said the completion of fast-track power plant projects would not readily solve the power crisis because there are other requirements, like the installation of transmission and distribution lines.

Japan Suspends Power-Related Loans

HK1603032393 Quezon City MALAYA in English 16 Mar 93 pp 1, 8

[Text] Japan has suspended the release of \$285 million in power-related loans pending implementation of an 18-centavo power rate increase by the National Power Corp [Napocor]. Finance Secretary Ramon del Rosario said yesterday. Del Rosario said the Overseas Economic and Cooperation Fund is worried over the financial condition of the state-owned power firm. "Finalization of the power-related loans is still dependent on the improvement of Napocor's finances which includes the 18-centavo power rate hike," he said.

The loans to be deferred represent about 23 percent of the \$12 billion in loans approved under the 18th Yen loan package. Among the major projects stalled as result of the suspension are the \$95.67 million Rural Electrification Extension Project; \$59.05 million for the rehabilitation of the Tiwi geothermal plant; \$55.48 million for the rehabilitation of Mak-Ban geothermal plant; \$47 million for the environmental improvement of Calaca 1 coal-fired plant, and \$28.10 million for the Palinpinon 2 geothermal plant.

Napocor was supposed to implement the 18-centavo power rate adjustment in December 1992 but was restrained by the Supreme Court on the ground that it did not hold the required public hearings. The high tribunal said the Energy Regulatory Board [ERB] must first act on a 1991 Napocor petition asking for a 17-centavo adjustment in rates before new charges are imposed.

In Malacanang, President Ramos urged the ERB to consider a March 1991 Napocor petition to increase power rates by 17 centavos. He said approving either the 1991 or 1992 petitions would generate needed revenues

for Napocor. "The 17- and 18-centavo petitions were two separate actions about one year apart but the government will be happy with any of the two increases, whichever comes first... It is the government's position that these new revenues for the Napocor are needed for us to be really ahead of the electric power and energy gains," Ramos said in a press conference.

He said Napocor could not effectively respond to the power crisis because of financial constraints, especially after it failed to secure a World Bank loan for the construction of additional transmission lines in Visayas and Mindanao.

Energy Secretary Delfin Lazaro told a hearing of the committee on energy of the Commission on Appointments the country will have zero outages in September if fast-track projects are completed on time and major plants do not break down. But he said "normal power supply" can be expected after three to four years.

At a hearing of the House good government committee, the president of Enron Power Development Corp. insisted there was no impropriety in the multi-billion peso contract it entered into with Napocor. "There is the mentality here that Enron must be the lowest-priced bidder. But we are not a contractor to Napocor. We were asked by Napocor (to construct the plant)," the firm's president, Rebecca Mark, said.

Mark said Enron was encouraged by an agreement previously signed by the government and another power firm, Hopewell Holding Ltd. "We were asked to drop everything and go to the Philippines," she said. Denying charges made by House Minority Floor Leader Hernando Perez (Laban [nation's strength] Batangas) that the project was over-priced by as much as P4 billion [Philippine pesos] Mark said the allegations "could only come from someone who doesn't know how Enron is paying for the project."

Since the project is constructed on a build-operate-transfer scheme, Mark said, Enron assumes all the risks during the 10-year life of the contract. Afterwards, the project is turned over to Napocor. Del Rosario said that the Japan Exim [Export-Import] Bank will however push through with the release of the \$358-million loan to Hopewell. The Hong Kong-based firm will use the loan to finance the construction of the 700-megawatt Pagbilao coal-fired plant. The project was awarded to Hopewell under the build-operate-transfer scheme.

Minister Sees Setback in Relations With DPRK

*HK1503032293 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 15 Mar 93 p 1*

[Report by Johanna Son]

[Text] The Philippines believes that North Korea's pullout from the nuclear nonproliferation treaty sets back Manila's efforts to open ties with Pyongyang and heightens instability in the Asia-Pacific region.

"We have looked forward to the normalization with North Korea once they had complied with this (inspection of suspected nuclear sites)," Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo said in an interview aboard a Philippine Airlines plane flying President Ramos home from his state visit to Japan.

But because North Korea refused to comply with the March 25 deadline set by the International Atomic Energy Agency to allow inspection of two suspected nuclear weapons plants, it "becomes a little bit tougher and more difficult to normalize" ties with that country, Romulo said.

North Korea's compliance with international standards on nuclear weapons and the spread of military nuclear technology has been the signals its neighbors have been watching out for before they start normalizing relations with Pyongyang.

"Obviously it will have an impact," Romulo said of North Korea's withdrawal from membership in the nuclear nonproliferation treaty. "All parties should be concerned about it."

Suspected of secretly developing nuclear weapons, North Korea said Friday it was pulling out of the treaty as a "self-defensive measure against the nuclear war maneuvers of the United States."

U.S. and South Korea troops have been holding a joint military exercise which North Korea has strongly protested.

South Korea has said North Korea is likely to be subjected to economic sanctions by the United Nations because of its withdrawal from the treaty.

Asked if the Philippines would support the UN decision, Romulo said: "Let's cross that bridge when we come to it."

Japan is also concerned over North Korea's action, saying it was a precondition to normalizing ties.

The two countries have long suspected each other's nuclear plans, although Tokyo is a party to the nonproliferation treaty.

Canadian Agency Donates Oil Drilling Rig

*HK1503031893 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 15 Mar 93 p 28*

[Text] The drilling capability of the Philippine National Oil Company (PNOC) was boosted recently with the turnover of a new drilling rig from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

The rig valued at 2.56 million Canadian dollars is part of CIDA's \$15-million grant to the Philippine energy sector. The other components of the program are technical support, training, and other forms of assistance.

The rig, built by Kremco of Canada, will be used mainly to "work over" or clean up obstructions inside the

borehole, improving the operation of old geothermal wells, and maximizing their energy-producing potential.

The rig can also be used to drill medium depth oil and gas wells for the petroleum industry in the country.

The grant is part of the fourth phase of CIDA's assistance to the Philippines, made up of a wide variety of technical and other assistance. The program, slated to end in March, 1994, covers about 20 separate project activities.

At the turnover ceremonies, Canadian Ambassador Andre S. Simard said he hopes that the CIDA assistance will enable the Philippines to harness and develop its vast energy resources.

The turnover ceremonies were held at the PNOC complex at Fort Bonifacio, Makati, with Simard handing the rig to Energy Secretary Delfin Lazaro and Monico Jacob, PNOC president.

Canada Provides P90-Million Aid Package

*HK1503032093 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 15 Mar 93 p 28*

[Report by Sel Baysa]

[Text] Two Canadian officials signed recently a Cdn \$4.5-million [Canadian dollars] contract aimed at helping the public sector develop and implement effectively the government's socio-economic and reform programs.

Pamela J. Deacon, Canadian Embassy counsellor, said the contract was part of the \$10-million policy, training, and technical assistance facility (PTTAF) funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

Deacon said the signatories to the \$4.5 million (about P90 million [Philippine pesos]) assistance program were Ambassador Andre S. Simard and Ron Compton, vice president of the DPA Group International of Canada.

She said a memorandum of agreement on the project was signed by representatives from the Philippines and Canadian governments last October.

Upon signing the \$4.5-million contract, Simard said "the PTTAF is one of the key and most strategic projects in Canada's assistance program to the Philippines... and, certainly, one of the most innovative."

The assistance program was conceived, designed, and planned by the two countries, but the implementation has been reportedly delegated to the Philippine Government.

Deacon said the National Economic and Development Agency (NEDA) has overall accountability for the project, while the Philippines Institute for Development and Studies (PIDS) has been designated executive agency.

Under the terms, the DPA Group of Canada will help PIDS in accessing Canadian technical resources in support of the goals of the project.

Commenting on its characteristic, Simard said "the project would not be possible without the highest degree of genuine partnership and trust between our governments."

NUC, Church Offer Sanctuary to Communist Chief

*HK1503025093 Manila MANILA STANDARD
in English 14 Mar 93 p 3*

[Text] The National Unification Commission (NUC) is offering sanctuary to former communist leader Jose Ma. [Joma] Sison and former priest Luis Jalandoni, both based in Utrecht, the Netherlands, for them to stay in a Catholic Church-protected venue so that the two designated spokesmen of local communist groups can return to the Philippines for peace talks.

Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon, a member of the NUC, yesterday disclosed that the NUC came up with a "consensus" in its meeting Thursday that Joma and Jalandoni "can dictate" to the government the terms of their security provisions should they decide to come back to the Philippines to participate in the peace talks here.

Drilon said the Catholic Church as represented in the NUC by Monsignor Francisco Capella and Bishop Felicisimo Carino offered to give refuge to Joma and Jalandoni if the two spokesmen of the National Democratic Front (NDF) will participate in the talks.

"If they (Joma and Jalandoni) are afraid for their security, they can dictate their own security arrangements," Drilon said.

"The Church has offered to provide the facilities and protection for them (Joma and Jalandoni) so that they can feel safe," he disclosed.

Joma had earlier expressed willingness to come back to the country to join the peace process provided the Philippine Government issues him a passport.

However, the government, through the NUC, had taken the stand that it will only issue travel documents, not passports, to Joma and Jalandoni to enable them to return to the Philippines for the purpose.

Joma, however, turned down the government proposal even as he expressed fear for his life should he come back to the Philippines. The NDF spokesman then renewed the suggestion for the peace talks to be held in a neutral site like Geneva.

Drilon in turn reiterated the position of government against holding peace talks abroad, saying the problem is "internal" and should not be "internationalized."

As this developed, Drilon said former Mount Banahaw commander of the New People's Army (NPA) in Quezon Province, Leopoldo Mabilangan alias Ka [comrade] Hector, will have to seek political intervention by President Ramos to spare him from being arrested should he be found involved in kidnap-for-ransom activities.

Drilon said prosecutors of the Department of Justice (DOJ) will come out either by Monday or Tuesday with the results of their investigation on the kidnap-for-ransom charge filed against Ka Hector by the Presidential Anti-Crime Commission (PACC) headed by Vice President Joseph Estrada.

If the DOJ prosecutors find "probable cause" to warrant the filing of criminal charges against Ka Hector, Drilon said, the DOJ will issue a subpoena to Mabilangan to submit his counter-affidavit.

Estrada attended the meeting of the NUC last Thursday to discuss the particular case of Ka Hector who was linked with the criminal activities of the Red Scorpion Group.

Drilon said it will be up to the courts to determine if a warrant of arrest should be issued against Ka Hector in the event DOJ prosecutors find "probable cause" on the PACC charges against Mabilangan, based on whatever information the government files in court.

The Justice Secretary stressed, though that it will be up to President Ramos whether or not to suspend any move against Ka Hector "in the higher national interest" as part of the confidence-building process of the government's peace efforts.

Thailand

Reportage on Foreign Minister's U.S. Visit

Meeting With Christopher

*BK1203070993 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network
in Thai 0000 GMT 12 Mar 93*

[Text] The Foreign Ministry's spokesman disclosed that the foreign minister's visit to Washington is considered to have appeased the desire of both sides for the opening of a new era in Thai-U.S. relations in all dimensions.

Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, who is currently paying a visit to Washington on 11 and 12 March, is scheduled to meet with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and other personalities from both the administrative and legislative branches. The Thai foreign minister is the first foreign minister of the ASEAN members and Southeast Asian countries to meet with the new U.S. secretary of state. It will be the first meeting at the ministerial level between President Clinton's administration and Prime Minister Chuan Likphai's government.

The foreign minister will inform his U.S. counterpart about political, economic, and social conditions in Thailand following the political change, which led to the recent general election in line with the democratic system as well as the new government's policy. He will also exchange views with the U.S. side on the general world situation, U.S. policies toward this region, and Thailand. This because the United States is the biggest market for Thailand. His visit to the United States will further

strengthen bilateral relations and usher in the new dimension of political, economic, and security cooperation between the two countries for mutual benefit on the basis of equality.

Meets U.S. House, Senate Members

*BK1203135993 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network
in Thai 1200 GMT 12 Mar 93*

[Text] Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, who is now in Washington D.C. for a visit from 10 to 13 March, had a meeting with the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, chairman of the U.S. House Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, chairman of the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, and chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

The U.S. authorities reportedly welcomed the fact that Thailand now has an elected government under a democratic system and expressed enthusiasm in cooperating and discussing with Thailand issues they may encounter in the future. Squadron Leader Prasong stressed that the Thai Government attached importance to promoting democracy and human rights and promoting good relations between Thailand and the United States.

The Thai foreign minister also reported to the U.S. officials about progress and obstacles to the peace settlement in Cambodia. He pointed out that Thailand had complied with the resolutions of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia and the United Nations on banning exports of logs and gems from the country. The Thai Government has strictly observed the decision and closed all temporary border checkpoints with Cambodia. However, Squadron Leader Prasong pointed out that due to the long stretch of border between Thailand and Cambodia, it is easy to smuggle, especially gems and jewelry, from Cambodia. The four U.S. officials expressed understanding about the problem.

Ministry Official Comments

*BK1303134993 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network
in Thai 1200 GMT 13 Mar 93*

[Text] According to Lieutenant Rawi Hongpraphat, the deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department, the UN secretary general will visit Thailand during 8-11 April as the guest of the Thai Government to inaugurate the building of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. While here, the secretary general will be received by the king and hold official consultations with the prime minister and senior Thai Government officials.

On Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri's participation in the roundtable discussion on the refugee problem at UN headquarters during 27 February to 24 March [dates as heard], Rawi said the foreign minister had the opportunity to meet with senior officials of several countries in attendance. The foreign minister explained Thailand's refugee policy, particularly the

Cambodian refugee problem, which has been burdening Thailand for some time. On Thailand's role in solving the Cambodian problem, Thailand has cooperated with the United Nations by always strictly complying with the UN resolutions. As a neighbor, Thailand has given full assistance to the restoration of peace in Cambodia.

On Thai policy toward countries in the region, particularly Burma, Rawi said the foreign minister emphasized the constructiveness of the Thai policy as opposed to the pressure strategy adopted by Western countries, which Thailand felt to be unsuccessful. Therefore, Thailand has placed an emphasis on helping the Burmese people to improve their living conditions.

Prasong Discusses U.S. Security Ties

*BK1403012093 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST
in English 14 Mar 93 p 2*

[Text] The United States still considers security cooperation with Thailand important even though it has closed most of its military bases in the region, a senior Thai official said.

In a 30-minute meeting at the Pentagon on Friday afternoon, Deputy US Defence Secretary William Perry and Defence Under Secretary for International Security Affairs Frank Wisner reassured Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri of the importance of Thailand's economy and security to the US Permanent Foreign Secretary Pracha Khunakasem said.

They emphasised the usefulness of security cooperation with Thailand, notably joint military exercises, he added.

The US is closing bases in the region though some areas remain "sensitive," Mr Prasong noted.

He expressed concern about the future of Cambodia after the elections and the withdrawal of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

Cambodian elections are set for May 23-27, and UNTAC is expected to pull out after transferring power to the elected government.

Thailand, the US and other friends of Cambodia must work together to avoid a new outbreak of civil war, Mr Prasong said.

The foreign minister also briefed the US officials on Thailand's policy of "constructive engagement" with the military dictatorship in Rangoon, and said that Thailand would continue to keep in touch with the junta in hopes of "influencing it gradually."

Harsh measures imposed by the international community on the junta would hurt the Burmese people, not the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council, he claimed.

Meets U.S. Press

*BK1403073293 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network
in Thai 0530 GMT 14 Mar 93*

[Text] During 8-14 March, Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri has been on a visit to the United States to meet with U.S. Administration and legislative officials and to participate in the roundtable discussion on the intensifying refugee problem.

Speaking with newsmen in Washington, the foreign minister said:

[Begin Prasong recording] Almost the entire U.S. Administration consists of new faces. Most of them are not familiar with problems in distant regions, particularly Asia and Southeast Asia. Their attention is mostly focused on other regions, particularly Europe. In any event, in my meetings with U.S. officials, I tried to get them to understand and explained the situation in several places, particularly in Cambodia. I wish to inform you that he [the U.S. secretary of state] expressed pleasure with the role and actions of the Thai Government in its cooperation to solve problems in Cambodia and its compliance with UN Security Council resolutions.

As for other actions by the U.S. secretary of state regarding the Cambodian problem, I am relatively confident that the problem is high on the U.S. agenda because he is quite concerned about the expected troubling situation after the elections and the withdrawal of the UN force. The situation in Cambodia then will have to be followed closely by every country and countries should cooperate accordingly.

The U.S. secretary of state assured me that there should be no problem, which would cause bilateral relations between our two countries to decline. [end recording]

Discusses Intellectual Property Policy

*BK1403140193 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network
in Thai 1200 GMT 14 Mar 93*

[Text] Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, foreign minister, granted an interview to THAI NEWS AGENCY officials in Washington during his visit to the United States. On the intellectual property problem, Prasong said he explained to the U.S. Congress that the United States and Thailand will have to discuss the matter and work together to solve the problem. He does not believe the problem is so serious as to hinder the currently good overall economic, technical, and technological cooperation. He said the United States had assured him that trade contacts and economic and technical cooperation with Thailand will continue unchanged and that the scope of bilateral relations will be broadened. Regarding problems that require negotiations, he said as long as there are regular consultations, the problems can be solved.

The foreign minister said he is confident that the country will benefit from his visit to the United States. He noted that he at least had the opportunity to hear the U.S.

views and to air his stands to the U.S. administrative and legislative branches, and this will contribute to good understanding between the two countries.

Premier Concerned Over Antigovernment Protests

*BK1603013193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
16 Mar 93 p 3*

[Text] The Prime Minister yesterday called on state agencies to discuss measures in solving problems connected with the increase in protests against the Government.

Chuan Likphai yesterday called on Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut, Interior Permanent Secretary Anan Anantakun, Police Chief Pol Gen [Police General] Sawat Amonwiwat, the National Intelligence director, the National Security Council secretary general and others to discuss the problem following protests demanding that the Government solve problems such as land disputes and the falling price of farm goods.

Mr Anan said Mr Chuan was concerned about the hardships faced by the people and had asked the Interior Ministry to act as a centre for tackling these problems.

Major problems cannot be solved without the cooperation of permanent officials such as the Agriculture and Cooperatives permanent secretary, who is in charge of the land problem, and the Commerce Ministry permanent secretary, who is responsible for farm product prices, said Mr Anan.

The Interior Ministry will work closely with these two ministries, he said.

"The first measure is to tackle people's problems before they gather to stage a protest," said Mr Anan.

He said the Prime Minister was also concerned that protests may cause clashes between the people and authorities and may be instigated by ill-intentioned third persons.

The Premier stressed that all officials, including police, should try to compromise and pay heed to the public's safety.

The Interior Ministry and Police Department will take on this problem, said Mr Anan.

The Prime Minister and Cabinet are also concerned about violations of the law which cause public unrest.

The country is governed by a democratic system and so gathering with good intentions is a basic principle, but laws must be observed.

The people should help protect and abide by the law, said Mr Anan.

He said the authorities would take action step by step to prevent a situation which may cause trouble for the public, such as a blockade.

It is the Prime Minister's wish to see the authorities avoid the use of force against people who gather to raise problems.

But protesters must be concerned about the common interest, he said.

Mr Anan said there was no evidence to indicate the recent protests on such things as the Khor Jor Kor land resettlement scheme and the falling price of farm products were politically motivated.

He also said the Police Department would set up a communications system and send teams to the provinces as part of the Interior Ministry plan to set up anti-protest centres at the provincial and district level.

Minister Comments on Upcoming U.S. Trade Talks

*BK1603021793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
16 Mar 93 p 26*

[Text] Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon says he is prepared to meet US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor personally if next week's official-level trade talks fail.

Mr Uthai suggested yesterday that the ministerial-level meeting might carry more weight if officials are unable to agree.

Commerce Permanent Secretary Phatchara Itsraseni is due to head a Thai delegation to the United States for meetings on March 22-26 to discuss the US complaints about copyright infringements in Thailand and what the Americans consider to be unsatisfactory provisions in Thai patent law.

Thai officials are pessimistic about the outcome. They predict that the Americans will keep Thailand on the list of "priority foreign countries" that are being watched most closely for intellectual property rights infringements or that Mr Kantor could start to retaliate against Thai exports by raising import duties.

By the end of April the US Trade Representative, a member of the American Cabinet responsible for trade negotiations, is due to announce the results of Washington's latest investigation against Thailand and other countries under Section 301 of US Trade Law.

The Americans are said to be dissatisfied because of a lack of progress on curbing audio and videotape piracy in Thailand.

They are also unhappy with provisions in the new Thai patent law designed to prevent abuse of monopoly power arising from pharmaceutical patent protection. In particular, they dislike the creation of a drug-price monitoring board, partly because they say, its composition is weighted in favour of local manufacturers who copy foreign drugs and its powers would allow these manufacturers access to patent-holders' trade secrets.

Police Seize Pirated Video Cassettes

BK1303042793 Bangkok THE NATION in English
13 Mar 93 p A3

[Text] Police have seized more than 9,000 pirated video cassette tapes of pornographic films and movies in Bangkok in the last few days, a senior police officer said yesterday.

The crackdown came after an order from Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut.

The minister told police to seize video cassette tapes of movies copied without the copyright owners' consent from Wednesday to yesterday, Metropolitan Police Commissioner Pol Lt Gen Chamlong Lamchaengphan said.

Chawalit, he said, was urged by the United States Embassy in Bangkok to take action against violators of US intellectual property copyrights.

A total of 9,292 video cassette tapes were confiscated.

Of the total, 1,116 were copied from original cassette tapes without the consent of copyright owners.

The others were pornographic films and uncensored movies, Chamlong said.

The video cassette tapes were estimated to be worth about Bt [baht] 2 million, he said.

Chamlong said lawsuits will be filed against 110 sellers of the video cassettes.

Government Claims Antipiracy Policies Successful

BK1303044693 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
13 Mar 93 p 22

[Text] The Commerce Ministry says its carrot and stick approach has encouraged a major company to turn against pirated audiotapes and videotapes.

Deputy Commerce Minister Churin Laksanawisit said cooperation with law-enforcement officials and a public relations campaign have persuaded Maeng Pong to announce that it will clear its stores of pirated tapes within two days.

Maeng Pong General Manager Witthaya Mitsattha said after meeting Mr Churin on Wednesday that the company's stores will sell only copyright tapes from Monday. About 20-30 percent of the stock is now pirated.

Although the company has copyright videos from Saha-mongkon Film company, it still has been forced to sell counterfeits because of the lower price, he said.

He urged copyright-holders to cut their prices to make pirate tapes less attractive and to increase supplies to meet demand.

Trade Surplus With U.S. Reaches \$2.4 Billion

BK1303044193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
13 Mar 93 p 22

[Text] Two-way trade between Thailand and the United States last year reached US\$11.5 billion. Thailand recorded a surplus of \$2.4 billion, up 49.7 percent on that of the previous year, according to a Thai trading consultancy in Washington.

US exports to Thailand last year were worth \$3.9 billion, a 6.13 percent increase from those of 1991. They included aircraft and their components, jet turbines, electronic circuits, machinery and typewriter parts.

Thailand's exports to the US were worth \$7.5 billion, up 23 percent on those for 1991. The Thai products were computer parts, fresh and frozen seafood, electronic circuits, video machines, canned tuna, jewelry and ornaments, shoes, garments and electronic appliances.

Chuan Rules Out 'Prompt' Government Reshuffle

BK1403010693 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English
14 Mar 93 p 1

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai yesterday ruled out a prompt Cabinet reshuffle as opposition speculation grew about a shake-up.

The speculation might stem from different opinions among governing parties on several issues, Mr Chuan said.

He is not thinking of a Cabinet shakeup nor does he want to comment on the Opposition's thinking on the matter.

Denying that his Government has been too slow in tackling problems, Mr Chuan said it has moved to deal with issues left unresolved by the previous administration and also some long-term matters.

The working style of his Government may not be flamboyant or quick "because we don't want to leave problems for succeeding governments to tackle."

Mr Chuan said his Government will not create more problems.

He said he is not worried by the Opposition's move to censure his Government when Parliament reopens in May nor is he concerned over resentment from some coalition parties.

After being in politics for more than 20 years, he has seen that the only type of government which does not appear to have problems and which can function smoothly is dictatorship "because it is not answerable to the people."

There will be no problem for the Government "if everyone understands his role and plays according to that role"

After six months in office, Mr Chuan said he has found that most members of the Government understand their role and know it is not easy for coalition parties to come to terms on every issue.

He conceded that a difference of opinion among coalition parties might occur any time. But this divergence can benefit the Government if it leads to "brainstorming" which results in a consensus.

Mr Chuan said his Government attaches importance to the national interest work stability and systematic solving of problems. [passage omitted]

Editorial Criticizes Chuan's 'Apparent Lack' of Skills

*BK1603014793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
16 Mar 93 p 4*

[Editorial: "Chuan Must Become a Man of Action"]

[Text] Political cartoonists are about the only people who could find merit in a system which brings together five political parties headed by strong and independently-minded individuals and then expect them to forget their diverse interests and form a government.

This is because cartoonists have a wonderful sense of humour and such a situation guarantees them job satisfaction. The only way such an unwieldy multi-party, multi-interest coalition can work is by continuous compromise which takes account of natural "me first" instincts and subordinates them to an overall unity of purpose.

This is not an easy task and the coalition leader—in this case Chuan Likhai—would almost have to be superhuman to avoid occasionally rubbing influential members of one or another party up the wrong way, thereby exposing cracks in the coalition, while at the same time maintaining momentum in getting policies enacted into law.

During the past five months Mr Chuan has proved that he is not superhuman, but he can be forgiven for that. What is more serious, though, is an apparent lack of decision-making and organisational skills which has slowed the whole process of government. Far too much time has been wasted by coalition members trying to reconcile differences over their various conflicting "pet programmes". To begin with the Democrat Party tried to push through its controversial Agricultural Council project and before the dust had settled over this, Phalang Tham issued a rallying cry for democracy and rushed into the fray to try to get provincial governors elected instead of appointed. Not to be outdone, the New Aspiration Party tried, albeit less hard, to push for changes in Islamic laws.

The most generous interpretation of all this is that it was unavoidable because the coalition partners were all new to each other and had to try to sort out their differences,

but, nevertheless, it was a waste of time and reflected negatively on the effectiveness of a democratic, parliamentary system in getting the job done, and done fast. Quick, resolute troubleshooting is the key test of a coalition leader and Prime Minister Chuan's seeming inability to keep his colleagues in line through fair weather and foul has inevitably brought criticism of his management style and performance.

His critics—and many of his friends—complain that he is lacking in flexibility and is far too rigid in sticking to laws and regulations. When confronted with questions on contentious issues, Mr Chuan likes to say that such and such a problem would be dealt with in accordance with existing laws. He has also been accused of being indecisive and we do not have to peer very far into the past to see the smoke which bears witness to that particular fire.

Take the Pak Mun dam controversy. At the start of the protest in Ubon Ratchathani province Mr Chuan was adamant that the issue had become a fait accompli and that the project would have to go ahead. After a violent confrontation which saw the protest move to the seat of government in Bangkok, Mr Chuan at one stage commented that he would try to mediate between the two parties in dispute—the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT) and the protesters. Mr Chuan appeared to be unaware that a leader of government is supposed to intervene and resolve the problem, not merely act as a mediator.

The Pak Mun protesters were not calling for the scrapping of the dam. They were merely asking for full accountability by EGAT on potential repercussions from the dam's construction that would affect their livelihood. The way the Government handled matters gave the impression that it was siding with EGAT despite the fact that the villagers affected were forced to make sacrifices by vacating their traditional lands. The way EGAT described it, this sacrifice by a few was justifiable because of the supposed benefits it would bring to the many. By demonstrating blatant partiality towards EGAT in his handling of the Pak Mun controversy, Mr Chuan raised the question of whose interests he really has at heart.

It is time for the Prime Minister to take heed of the growing criticism about his own management style. Gone are the days when the prime minister could stay aloof and remain above politics. They ended with the last Prem Tinsulanon government. It is true that Gen Prem used to manage in this very style, but that was a different time when he enjoyed the strong backing of the armed forces and retained the service of capable technocrats to counter the influence of the politicians.

The complex nature of various economic, political and social problems today requires the head of government to be bold enough to take decisive action to defuse any problem threatening the public interest and national stability.

Looking back over the past five months, there is little in the way of outstanding accomplishments that the Government can lay claim to. Perhaps the only bright spot was its decision to allow the Nobel Peace Prize laureates to convene in Bangkok to campaign for the release of Burmese patriot Aung San Suu Kyi. Other accomplishments, if they can be called that, were the resolution of a series of mini-crises, dealing with short-term problems that arose and needed to be tackled on an ad hoc basis.

Now that that half-a-year has passed since the last election, the people are expecting something more noteworthy from those elected to high office. Critics of Britain's Prime Minister John Major have called him grey, dull and boring. If there is any truth in this—and we are not saying there is—then let Britain have a monopoly on this. We want a forthright, resolute and decisive prime minister who can move the country forward and who understands what is meant by "fast track". Mr Chuan has these capabilities. It is time for him to demonstrate them.

Firms Plan Mills in Cambodia Avoiding UN Ban

BK1403020493 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Mar 93 p A2

[By Nikhon Chanphrom]

[Text] Buri Ram—Thai companies are planning to set up sawmills in Khmer Rouge-controlled areas of Cambodia to process felled logs for export to get around the UN-sponsored ban on log trading with the guerrillas.

Two companies operating out of Buri Ram province told THE NATION they were ready to take the risk if the frontier was reopened. It's understood other logging companies are making similar preparations.

The Interior Ministry is expected to announce tomorrow whether it will reopen temporary border crossing points along the Thai-Cambodian border ordered closed on Dec 25 in conformity with a ban on the export of unprocessed Cambodian logs endorsed by the United Nations on Nov 30.

There have been earlier reports that more than 120 sawmills have been spotted inside Khmer Rouge zones close to the border, but despite speculation there has been no firm evidence they were being operated by Thais.

Anusom Bunma, managing director of P T Eastern Premier Co Ltd, which operates in the Cambodian provinces of Siem Reap and Udon Meanchey, said his company was prepared to set up the sawmills once the government gave the greenlight.

He admitted there was a risk of financial loss, given the political situation and the high operating costs. "But there is other alternative," he said.

The high costs were brought on by the need to transport everything to the site—water, machinery and labour.

"There is nothing in Cambodia. No electricity and no water," he said.

Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC), which groups the four warring factions, earlier this month agreed to allow limited export of processed woods from areas controlled by the Phnom Penh government under the supervision of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, and announced it would favourably consider similar requests from the other non-communist factions.

The concession was not extended to the Khmer Rouge, on grounds that there were no UN checkpoints in Khmer Rouge-held territory to monitor the shipments.

Reopened Cambodian Border Pass Attracting Traders

BK1403021293 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Mar 93 p A2

[By Charoenlak Phetpradap]

[Text] Once the scene of many battles, Chong Chom in Surin province was yesterday reopened as a checkpoint for cross-border trade for the first time in more than a decade.

The re-opening of the pass, however, attracted more Thai than Cambodian traders. Earlier, Chong Chom, in Kharpheng district, was used as a log transportation route only.

About 200 Thai merchants who expected to sell goods ranging from vegetables, fruit and meat to cooking utensils, small electrical appliances and wrist watches, plus ready-made clothes, packed the small trading quarter on the Thai side, less than 500 metres from the border.

Between 300 and 500 Cambodians who came from opposite O-Samed before opening time, were waiting to buy products for resale inside Cambodia.

Governor Kopkhun Tonglongya, who witnessed the reopening yesterday, said the checkpoint would be used for border trading twice a month, on the first and the third weekends from 8 am to 7 pm.

"It is opening on an experimental basis to measure the volume of trade, which is still considered very small," said Kopkhun. He admitted that the reopening of the checkpoint was to promote ties between local authorities than to make a profit.

Cambodian purchasing power was still relatively low, he said.

Fighting Delays Opening of Burmese Border Points

*BK1203013993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
12 Mar 93 p 6*

[Text] Mae Hong Son—Thailand cannot open border checkpoints to facilitate trade with Burma in Muang District of this northern province because of fighting across the border.

Muang District Chief Niphon Khampa said Thai authorities wanted to set up border passes in Ban Piang Din and Ban Nai Soi to strengthen relations which are already good on this side of the border.

But fighting between Burmese government troops and minority groups along the border threatens the safety of lives and property of Thai traders crossing the border.

He said Burmese authorities knew about the problems and were not allowing official border trade in the area.

Vietnam

Communist Party To Discuss Leadership Reshuffle

*OW1603122893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1211 GMT
16 Mar 93*

[Text] Hanoi, March 16 KYODO—Vietnam's Communist Party will convene an extraordinary national party assembly in the second half of 1993 to discuss a renewal of the leadership and the progress of policies adopted during the last party congress, several party sources said Tuesday.

It is the first time such a meeting, involving large-scale participation of the party's rank-and-file, has been called between two regular party congresses, which are held every five years.

The party's Central Committee usually meets in plenary session twice during the five-year intervals.

Political analysts say the decision to discuss policies on a broader basis reflects the leadership's increasing doubts about whether economic reforms can go ahead without relevant political restructuring.

The extraordinary assembly will likely scrutinize the implementation of policies adopted at the June 1991 party congress, which underlined the party's commitment to socialism and economic liberalization, the sources said.

An evaluation of the seven-year-old Doi Moi economic reforms will also be on the agenda, along with a personnel reshuffle and preparations for the 1996 8th party congress, they said.

There will be a major reshuffle of party personnel including the top posts, party sources said.

Army Paper Denounces UNTAC Inaction on Massacre

*BK1503085193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in
Vietnamese 2330 GMT 14 Mar 93*

[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN commentary—date not given]

[Text] Dear comrades and friends, as earlier reported Democratic Kampuchea's [DK] cruel massacre of Vietnamese residents in Siem Reap Province on 10 March was yet another dangerous act aimed at undermining the peace process and stability in Cambodia.

Commenting on this issue, QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in its recent issue called for measures to seriously punish the culprits of this act. The commentary says: On 10 March, a group of 20 to 30 armed Cambodians intruded on the fishing village of Chong Kneas, 10 km south of Siem Reap Province, killing 33 Vietnamese fishermen, including eight children, and injuring 29 others—among them 26 Vietnamese and three Cambodians. One of these armed Cambodians was shot to death by a woman. UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] officials surveyed the site and confirmed that the act was committed by the DK. This is yet another barbarous act against Vietnamese residents in Cambodia. It is one of the most serious massacres since the signing of the Paris peace accord.

It is necessary to say that this massacre occurred only one week after UNTAC's assertion of so-called foreign forces in Cambodia and less than two days after the UN Security Council adopted Resolution No. 810 contending that legal and honest civilians living in Cambodia are foreign forces that must be expelled. This UN resolution was adopted regardless of the aspirations of these people and will result in the separation of their families, thus running counter to the human rights conventions approved by the UN.

Public opinion wonders whether the erroneous UN assertion and resolution have encouraged the recent cruel massacre in Cambodia? As everyone is well aware, the peace process in Cambodia is facing numerous difficulties and complexities caused by the DK. During the past period the DK repeatedly alleged that there are still Vietnamese troops in Cambodia. They have, on many occasions, launched operations to massacre Vietnamese residents, created an ethnic hatred, and obstructed the implementation of the peace agreement in Cambodia.

The recent Khmer Rouge acts reminded the people of their genocidal acts when they were in power in Cambodia before 1979. Indeed, the killing fields in Cambodia are still remembered by the Cambodian people as well as the world community.

Is it possible that the 10 March massacre of Vietnamese residents in Cambodia is a sign of the beginning of a new massacre campaign?

As a peacekeeping force in Cambodia, UNTAC must take responsibility for resolving obstacles to the peace process and stopping serious acts committed by the DK.

For Vietnam, it has, on many occasions, reminded UNTAC—in its capacity as the UN provisional authority in Cambodia—to take effective measures to protect the lives and property of Vietnamese residents in Cambodia and to seriously deal with the culprits of these acts. However, thus far, UNTAC has taken no appropriate and effective measures to resolve this issue.

Vietnam is unswervingly honoring its commitments to the Paris peace accord and appeals to all signatory countries and parties concerned to respect and seriously implement this accord as well.

The Vietnamese people and Armed Forces call on the UN Security Council, UNTAC, signatory countries to the Paris peace accord; the Government, people, and State of Cambodia; and the international community to take urgent and effective measures to prevent the recurrence of this cruel massacre against Vietnamese residents in Cambodia. Masterminds and those directly involved in this barbarous act must be duly punished.

Canadian Citizen To Be Tried for Tax Evasion

BK1603100993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 11 Mar 93

[Summary] "The 26 March Corporation in Khanh Hoa, a joint venture between the 26 March Enterprise under the Khanh Hoa Provincial Youth Union and the (TAICO) company of Canada with Mr. Vima Nguyen, a naturalized Canadian of Vietnamese origin, as its director, was granted business license No. 44 by the State Commission for Cooperation and Investment on 5 February to engage in the production and export of rattan articles."

Since its founding the corporation has committed countless irregularities. Taking advantage of our country's promotional investment policy, "the corporation has repeatedly violated Vietnam's investment law by tax evasion and tax fraud involving large sums of money while engaging in the export and trading of rattan articles, Honda motorcycles, and belt sanders."

Examples of the corporation's irregularities are as follows:

"In 1990, the corporation imported Honda motorcycles in two shipments into Ho Chi Minh City but did not maintain records on this. When these motorcycles were sold, the corporation also failed to prepare any invoices, certificates, or accounting records. The money obtained from these sales was also not deposited in the company's

fund and not declared for tax purposes. When investigated, the corporation failed to provide a clear statement, deliberately trying to commit tax fraud. The company was later fined by the Khanh Hoa Provincial Tax Office a total of 334,781,260 dong."

"In 1990, the corporation imported 100,000 metric tons of belt sanders worth 12,000 Singaporean dollars tax free allegedly for production purposes but it later resold these belt sanders for profit. In this way, the corporation was able to evade paying taxes. When this irregularity was detected, the Khanh Hoa Provincial Tax Office fined the corporation over 2,000 Singaporean dollars."

"In 1990-91, the corporation processed and sold over 710 metric tons of rattan, including 11,125 square meters of (?woven) rattan, and 42,700 products made from rattan, bamboo, and palm leaves. But in fact, the corporation only exported over 404 metric tons of rattan." The remaining "was reported to have been sold locally."

These actions by the corporation are "at variance with what was stipulated in the business license granted to the corporation by the Committee for Cooperation and Investment that all of the corporation's products must be exported." More seriously, "the corporation sold these products locally and refused to pay commercial and income taxes in accordance with our country's tax law."

This anomaly has provoked questions from the public. For instance: How many tax-evading trade businesses and trading companies are still undetected by responsible organs?

"The 26 March corporation now still owes over 2,885 Singaporean dollars, nearly 9,437 U.S. dollars, and 36,054,200 Vietnamese dong in tax to the state. When the wrongdoings of the corporation—their efforts to evade taxes resulting in a great tax debt—were detected by responsible organs, the Khanh Hoa Provincial People's Committee decided to conduct an inventory of the corporation's assets in order to protect the interests of the Vietnamese side. While this case was still pending, Mr. Vima Nguyen, director of the 26 March joint venture, transported his rattan products by car to Ho Chi Minh City without permission in order to hide them and obstructed law local enforcement authorities from conducting an inventory.

"The arrogant acts of Mr. Vima Nguyen and his wrongdoings in production and business—especially in tax evasion and tax fraud—amount to defying Vietnamese law and this must be dealt with according to the law."

The Khanh Hoa Provincial People's Organ of Control "has filed legal actions against Vima Nguyen, director of the 26 March joint venture, on the charge of tax evasion. He will be brought to trial soon."

Australia

Minister Predicts Increased House Majority

BK1503080093 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0500 GMT 15 Mar 93

[Text] A senior minister says the Australian Government could end up with a substantially increased majority when counting of postal, absent, and pre-poll votes from the weekend election is concluded. Defense Minister Robert Ray, a senior government strategist, believes the government's majority in the House of Representatives could increase from nine to between 17 and 19. Senator Ray says he is surprised at the possibility of an increased parliamentary majority and that until the day before the election, he thought the government would lose. He said the conservative opposition's proposed consumption tax and its plans to deregulate the workplace and change Australia's national health insurance scheme, medicare, were the reasons for Labor's victory.

Replacement of Labor Ministers Expected

BK1503074493 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0500 GMT 15 Mar 93

[Text] Australia's labor party government is expected to undergo major changes following its election victory at the weekend. Radio Australia's Canberra office says as many as 10 of the 30-member federal ministries could be replaced. Two senior ministers, Industry Minister John Button and Immigration Minister Gerry Hand have retired from parliament and the Attorney General Michael Duffy is stepping down from the ministry. Our Canberra office says at least seven other ministries could go in a cabinet reshuffle. The Labor Party caucus is expected to meet later this week to elect the new ministries.

The senior partner in the opposition coalition, the Liberal Party, is likely to meet early next week to decide on its leadership following the poor showing at the election. The opposition leader, John Hewson, says he will again contest the leadership and claims to have wide party support.

Keating Rules Out Referendum on Republic

BK1503104693 Hong Kong AFP in English 1037 GMT
15 Mar 93

[By Robert Holloway]

[Text] Sydney, March 15 (AFP)—Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating Monday ruled out a referendum on breaking ties with the British monarchy during his three-year term of government. But he said the Labor Party's election victory had given the government a mandate to hold such a referendum. He also ruled out using the government's constitutional power to change Australia's imperial flag without a referendum.

At his first news conference since he claimed "the sweetest victory" before midnight Saturday, Keating said his first priority was to create jobs to cut the nation's total of one million unemployed—the issue which pre-election opinion polls suggested would cost him his office.

He also said he believed there was scope for a new reduction in interest rates, but ruled out a major review of fiscal policy before the 1993/94 budget is delivered in August.

"We are always examining fiscal policy but if you are talking about a major statement—no," Keating said.

The five-week election campaign was dominated to the virtual exclusion of everything else by two economic questions—Labor's failure to prevent unemployment rising to a 50-year high of 11.4 percent, and the conservative opposition's proposal to reform the country's tax system and introduce a Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Keating nevertheless asserted Monday that his win had given him a mandate to hold a referendum on a republic.

"I think the government has put to the Australian electorate that we should be masters of our own destiny, that the embodiment of the country should be visited upon an Australian and that this should best happen in a structure for a federal republic."

The current embodiment of sovereignty is Queen Elizabeth, who is represented in this country by the governor-general. A referendum to change the constitution would require the assent of a majority of the six states in the federation as well as a majority of vote nationwide.

Referendums are notoriously difficult to win in Australia—only eight of the 42 proposed since 1901 have succeeded—and Keating repeated his view on Monday that it "is not possible to canvass such vast issues" in so short a time as three years. There would, he said, be no referendum on a republic during the next three-year parliamentary term.

Asked whether the government might exercise its right to change the present flag, which incorporates the British Union Jack, Keating replied:

"I think the constitutional structure having been decided, all the other things fall into place, including the flag." But, he said, "if Australia decided by referendum to become a republic we would have of course then no place whatsoever for the Union Jack in the corner of our flag."

Keating, who confounded most opinion polls and political commentators as well as the opposition by winning a record-making fifth election for Labor, said "the party is entitled to celebrate and should celebrate." He continued: "Once that is done all efforts will be on managing the economy and creating jobs."

He hinted that he favoured a new cut in interest rates, which were reduced to 5.75 percent last July, and said: "I will be talking, with the treasurer, to the governor of the reserve bank in a few days about that. We will test his views."

In his victory speech—which did not contain a single reference to the monarchy or to a republic—Keating acknowledged that he won because voters had "spotted the dangers in the Liberal Party's policies."

During the campaign, he had hammered relentlessly at the GST, urging voters "if you don't understand it, don't vote for it."

Liberal party and opposition leader John Hewson admitted that "this election was a referendum in the end on the GST" and said on Sunday that he was scrapping the policy.

Keating Victory Depresses Stock Market

BK1503105093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0846 GMT 15 Mar 93

[Text] Sydney, March 15 (AFP)—The Australian share market fell more than two percent on Monday, depressed by Labor Prime Minister Paul Keating's unexpected general election victory.

The market indicator, the All Ordinaries index, closed 35.1 points lower at 1626.4 amid a sell-off of shares in banks, retail and transport companies—sectors which would have gained most from a change in government.

In early morning trading, the index plunged to 1614, the point at which it had started to rise March 8 when opinion polls indicated that the conservative coalition of Liberal and National parties was leading Labor by three percentage points and that Keating was about to lose office.

Election analysts said Monday that Labor would have at least 77 seats in the new 147-seat House of Representatives and might even increase its eight-seat majority when final results were declared.

Brokers said the market was also affected by weakness in overseas markets, where nervousness about the political situation in Russia and Hong Kong prompted large falls. Market leader BHP was down 34 cents to 14.36 Australian dollars.

Banking shares were sold off after Labor's victory smashed hopes of mergers promised by the coalition of Liberal and National parties.

ANZ fell 32 cents at 3.26 dollars and National Australia Bank lost eight cents to stand at 8.47 dollars.

Westpac, which announced plans on Monday to axe 2,000 jobs and restructure its retail operations with savings of 150 million dollars (105 million U.S. dollars) per year, dropped 11 cents to 3.09 dollars.

The government-owned Commonwealth Bank, however, gained 10 cents to close at 7.50 dollars, despite Labor's announcement before the election that it would reduce the

government's 70 percent stake in the bank to 51 percent. Brokers said the sale is not expected in the short term.

In moderate trading, 137.7 million shares worth 264.7 million dollars changed hands with falls beating rises by four to one.

Transport stocks fell as the coalition's promise of a cut in petrol excise crumbled into dust. Brambles dropped 14 cents to 16.00 dollars, Mayne Nickless fell 24 cents to 6.79 dollars and TNT lost eight cents to stand at 80 cents.

Retailers, too, were depressed since the conservatives had pledged to scrap payroll tax and exempt food from its proposed goods and services tax.

Coles fell 15 cents to 4.55 dollars and Foodland dropped 15 cents to 6.75 dollars.

Prominent among the day's gains were media groups.

Rupert Murdoch's News Corp. rose eight cents to 7.44 dollars, while Australian Consolidated Press was up two cents to 5.82 dollars after announcing an interim net profit of 33 million dollars.

Conference Discusses Presence of U.S. Military Bases

BK1303080293 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0524 GMT 13 Mar 93

[Text] The conference in Adelaide is discussing the presence of American military bases in Australia. Organized by the Australian Peace Committee, it's a lead-up to a protest plan for the Easter weekend at the Nurrungar Base in South Australia's far north.

(Kanvina Ron Gray) says the meeting will look at the effect bases had on aboriginal land rights, the environment, and world peace. (Mr. Gray) says the intention of the conference is to find foreign policy options which don't rely on military might to defend Australia.

New Zealand

Government Congratulates Australia's Keating

BK1403005893 Hong Kong AFP in English 2036 GMT 13 Mar 93

[Text] Wellington, March 14 (AFP)—Acting Prime Minister Don McKinnon early Sunday congratulated Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating on his victory in elections Saturday.

He said the relationship with Australia was the most important single factor in New Zealand's foreign, trade and security relations.

"I am confident that we will continue to enhance and strengthen the trans-Tasman relationship working with the new Labor government," McKinnon said.

"Clearly, Prime Minister Keating has run a skillful and effective campaign," he said in a statement.

